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98

GORGEOUS patterns!



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Stunning LILLIES

* Sparkly owl * Teatime sampler * Jungle animals * Autumn hues *



Monogram ABC
Mix & match the motifs

TRANSPORT DESIGN LIBRARY: 40+ CHARTS!

A detailed cross-stitch artwork depicting a lush forest scene. In the foreground, a small brown rabbit with white markings sits on a large, textured rock. Behind it, a waterfall cascades down a rocky ledge into a blue stream. The background is filled with trees displaying vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, yellow, and green. The sky is a soft, hazy blue. The entire scene is rendered in a pixelated, cross-stitch style.

Be inspired...

*Thread up your needle and delight in our
easy-to-use patterns, perfect for beginner
stitchers or more experienced alike*

Welcome

Hello and welcome to our October issue! With Halloween on the horizon, we've packed the magazine with **lots of treats** and, as always, shared lots of tricks and tips to help your stitching, too!

Autumn is here, and what better way to greet it than with Amanda Butler's **charming landscape** (p26)? Full of the beautiful hues of the season, it's a joy to stitch and a joy to behold! If that's got you in the mood for seasonal stitching, you'll love the **sweet woodland animal** cards (p56). And the fun plastic canvas party set (p70) is not only a great make for Halloween, but also has a **fantastic surprise** for when the lights go out!

Want some more stitchy treats? Head to page 84 to find Susan Bates' **mouthwatering tea and cake** sampler, and page 10 for a simply stunning stargazer lily bouquet. These **dainty pink blooms** are so lifelike, all that's missing is their gorgeous scent!

If you enjoy seeing your fellow stitchers' makes, turn to page 69 to find out about an **amazing project** designed by a reader, then check out the letters on page 16 for lots more inspiration. And do keep your finished projects coming in – we love to see what you're stitching!



Hannah

The World of Cross Stitching



Meet some of our designers...



BECKY SPENCER

The woodland creatures and autumn motifs in Becky's all-occasion card set (p56) are a delight to stitch, and are sure to get you set for the new season.



FABY REILLY

Faby has designed the adorable wide-eyed owl on page 78. Featuring beads, sequins and eyelet stitch, it's our Stitcher's Challenge this month. Twit twoo!



HELEN BRINDLEY

You'll find Helen's colourful jungle scene on page 20. Her cute lion, monkey, zebra and giraffe will appeal to both the young and young-at-heart!



Your chance to win!

See page 83 to enter our competitions & be lucky

OVER
£1,084
OF PRIZES
WILL BE
WON!



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We bring you all the best projects, advice, news and offers for the month ahead!

YOUR FAB GIFT!

Turn to page 7

Get started on your Christmas stitching early with this festive trio of mini greeting cards



Gift available with print edition only. Overseas gift(s) may vary



COVER STAR!

10 STITCH THESE VIBRANT BLOOMS!

Subscribe and save money

Turn to page 44



Receive one of these two beautiful craft bags, each worth £27.99! They're nice and roomy, and make it easy to stitch on the go. Plus, save 29% off the shop price!

Subscription offer available to new UK subscribers only and with print edition only

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The World of Cross Stitching (ISSN 1460-1970) (USPS 015-630) is published 13 times a year (monthly, with a Christmas issue in November) by Immediate Media Bristol LTD, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN, UK. Distributed in the US by NPS Media Group, LLC, 2 Corporate Drive, Suite 945, Shelton, CT 06484. Periodicals postage paid at Shelton, CT and additional mailing offices.
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Much more than a magazine...

APPS TO GO!

Here at *The World of Cross Stitching* we're proud to be online! Download our apps at the Apple newsstand, Google play, Zinio and Amazon for Kindle Fire.



38 CRAFT A PRETTY KITTY PATCHWORK DOORSTOP



- ✦ Get a sneak preview
- ✦ Appear in the magazine
- ✦ Receive a stichy gift

Meet our guests

Get to know this month's reader panel, and look out for their favourite projects throughout the issue



**Rebecca
Leverington**

is a full-time carer from Rochester, Kent

How did you start stitching?

My mum introduced me when I was around 14 years old – I've been going strong for nearly 16 years now.

What was the last thing you stitched as a gift?

A sampler for the birth of my nephew.

I changed the colours to match his nursery and it turned out great. My sister and her husband absolutely loved it.

What's the best stitching tip you ever heard or read?

When I started, my mum told me to invest in a good daylight lamp for stitching, so that I wouldn't strain my eyes. I swear by it to this day.

Fave design from a recent issue?

It's got to be 'Full Steam Ahead' from issue 269. I love the nostalgic feel.

What's your most memorable stitching moment?

It's the first project I ever did. It was only a little card, but I was so happy with it that my mum framed it for me.



**Cassie
Stephens**

is a medical assistant from Missouri, USA

What's been your favourite ever cross stitch project?

A Janlynn wedding sampler I just completed for my husband and me.

Who are your stitching buddies?

I like to stitch with my husband – we call it our sewing circle, as he does needlepoint. I never run out of stichy companions due to the fact that we foster cats and kittens for our local animal shelter.

What's your favourite design from a recent issue?

I love the peacock stitching accessories set from issue 267. Peacocks are one of my favourite motifs – I even had peacock feathers in my wedding bouquet.

What do your family and friends think of your hobby?

Most of my family and friends are really impressed with my stitching. They all think it's very beautiful.

My mum even started to cross stitch herself after I took up the hobby!



**Chloe
Shrubb**

is a nursery nurse from Waterlooville, Hampshire

How did you start cross stitching?

I began about a year and a half ago. My mum suggested it when I needed something to focus on to help me through a difficult time. Now it's my favourite downtime hobby!

If there was a movie made about cross stitching, and you were the star, who would play you and why?

I would get American actor Melissa McCarthy to play me – her big, bubbly personality is very similar to mine.

What's the best stitching tip you ever heard or read?

Start with small, simple projects, and I find that having more than one on the go can keep you interested! A thread cutter is also a life-saver.

What's been your favourite design from a recent issue?

I loved the cute 'Under the Sea' charts by Fiona Baker, which were in issue 269.



We need you!

To be on the panel, email readerpanel@cross-stitching.com – tell us your name, where you're from and include a good-quality photo of yourself. Every panellist gets a preview of the magazine and a gift worth at least £30!



Gift worth £30!

THANKS! This month's panel members each get a bundle of thread goodies from Madeira. Each bundle includes a Thread Cutter, Thread Tidy, big embroidery hoop, Mouliné threads and a Mouliné thread card.

Your EXCLUSIVE gift!

Get started on your Christmas stitching early with this sweet trio of mini greeting cards



Mini Christmas Cards key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | |
|----|-------------|
| ○ | white |
| K | brown |
| ♡ | pink |
| ♀ | yellow |
| \$ | dark green |
| ◇ | green |
| ? | light green |
| ↗ | light red |

✦ Half cross stitch in two strands

| | |
|---|-------------|
| A | light pink |
| ∇ | light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| — | red |
| — | dark brown |
| — | very dark green |
| — | blue |

✦ French knots in one strand

| | |
|---|------------|
| ● | red |
| ● | dark brown |
| ● | yellow |
| ● | blue |

STITCH COUNT 25 high x 25 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 4.5x4.5cm (1¾x1¾in)

These designs were stitched using stranded cotton from your coverkit

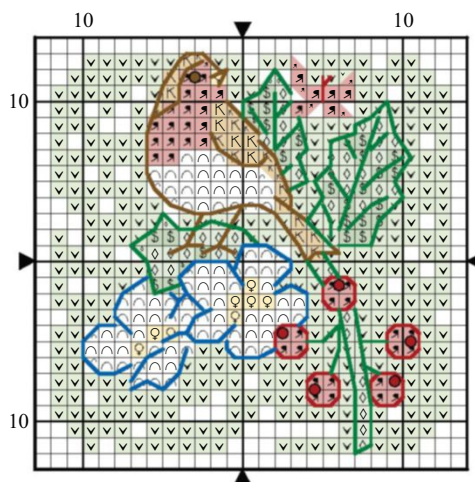
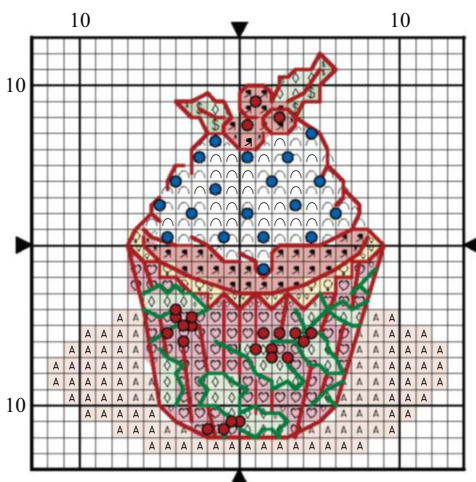
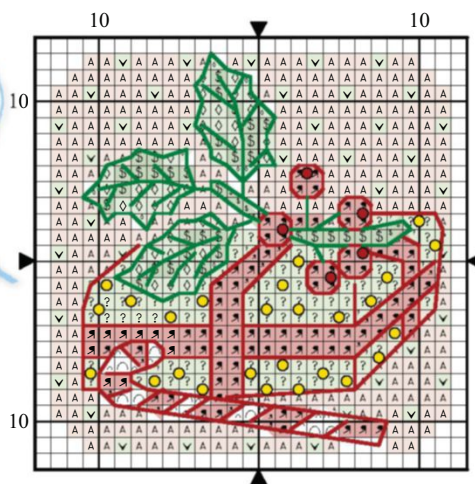
Factbox

Stitching Time
Approx. 4-5 hours each

Type of Stitches
Cross stitch, fractionals, half cross stitch, backstitch, French knots

Ease of Stitching
Intermediate

Pretty festive motifs



Inside your kit...

To help you sort your threads, here is a list of the colours and number of lengths inside your kit:

- White x3
- Brown x1
- Pink x2
- Yellow x1
- Dark green x2
- Green x3
- Light green x4
- Light red x3
- Light pink x3
- Red x2
- Dark brown x1
- Very dark green x2
- Blue x1

Total: 28 lengths

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Kits contain: 14hpi Aida, Threads, Needle, Chart, Instructions

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
|  8" x 10", 14hpi CHART £6.50 KIT £17.50 |  9" x 12", 14hpi CHART £7.00 KIT £19.50 |  8" x 10", 14hpi CHART £6.50 KIT £17.50 |  8" x 10", 14hpi CHART £6.50 KIT £17.50 |
|  8" x 10", 14hpi CHART £6.50 KIT £17.50 |  8" x 12", 14hpi CHART £7.00 KIT £18.50 |  12" x 14", 14hpi CHART £7.50 KIT £20.50 |  8" x 10", 14hpi CHART £6.50 KIT £17.50 |


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Furry Tales

Collect a chart from the adorable Furry Tales family, designed by Lucie Heaton

Halloween Mouse key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|-------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ♥ | 349 | 1098 | 212 | red |
| J | 414 | 235 | 1714 | grey |
| b | 436 | 1045 | 2011 | tan |
| o | 437 | 362 | 2012 | light tan |
| s | 739 | 366 | 2014 | cream |
| • | 741 | 304 | 202 | tangerine |
| w | 754 | 1012 | 305 | peach |
| • | 948 | 892 | 306 | light peach |
| ■ | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 32 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 7.5x6cm (2¾x2¼in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Monty is dressed in his vampire costume, ready to go trick or treating! You can make this design into a great Halloween card, or stitch it onto plastic canvas and add a ribbon for a fabulous hanging decoration.

Missed a chart?



ISSUE 271

Make a special 'get well' card to show a loved one just how much you care.

ISSUE 270

Monty Mouse is ready for summer, cooking up a storm on the barbecue.

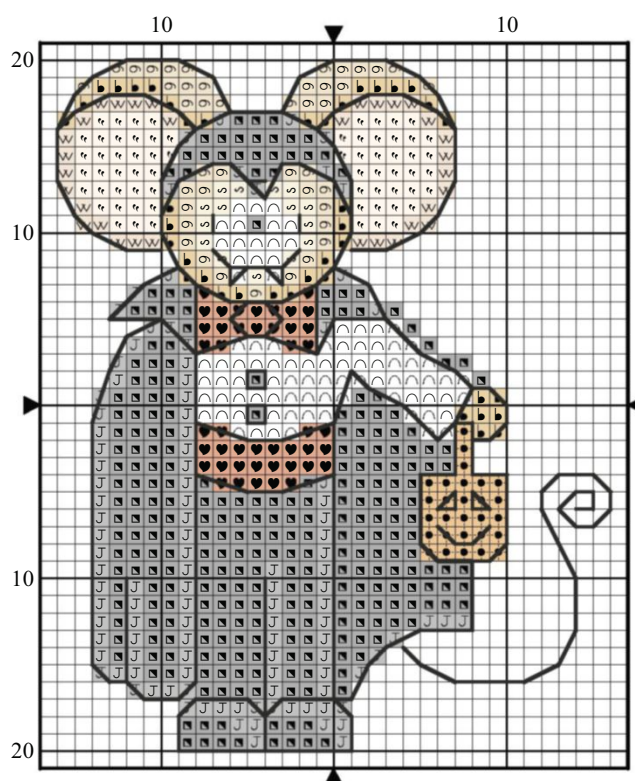


ISSUE 269

Celebrate the American 4 July holiday in stitches with our patriotic chart!



For back issues, call ☎ 03330 162 137



DESIGN BY **AMANDA GREGORY**

Floral fancies

Celebrating the magnificent stargazer lily, this striking design is simply bursting with colour

So-called because their exquisite flowers look up towards the sky, stargazer lilies have long been a favourite of floral enthusiasts due to their stunning pink hues and rich scent. In this charming design, Amanda has beautifully paired them with pale pink gerberas, creating a stitched bouquet that is sure to delight any flower fan.

The spotted pattern on the petals is cleverly created with French knots, but as the rest of the design uses just cross stitch and backstitch, advanced beginners as well as more experienced stitchers will enjoy making this delightful pattern flourish!

Framing the finished design in a simple white frame with a deeper

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 22 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Advanced beginner/intermediate

Gorgeous subtle shading

cream mount will ensure the bright colours of these exotic blooms really take centre stage. Hang in your living room or conservatory, and enjoy the vivid hues of these pretty lilies all year round – especially in winter when you need a boost of summer colour! ➤



Meet the designer

Amanda Gregory

“Stargazer lilies are such stunning flowers – my friend had them in her wedding bouquet, so they’ve always occupied a special place in my heart. I loved capturing their beauty for this design.”

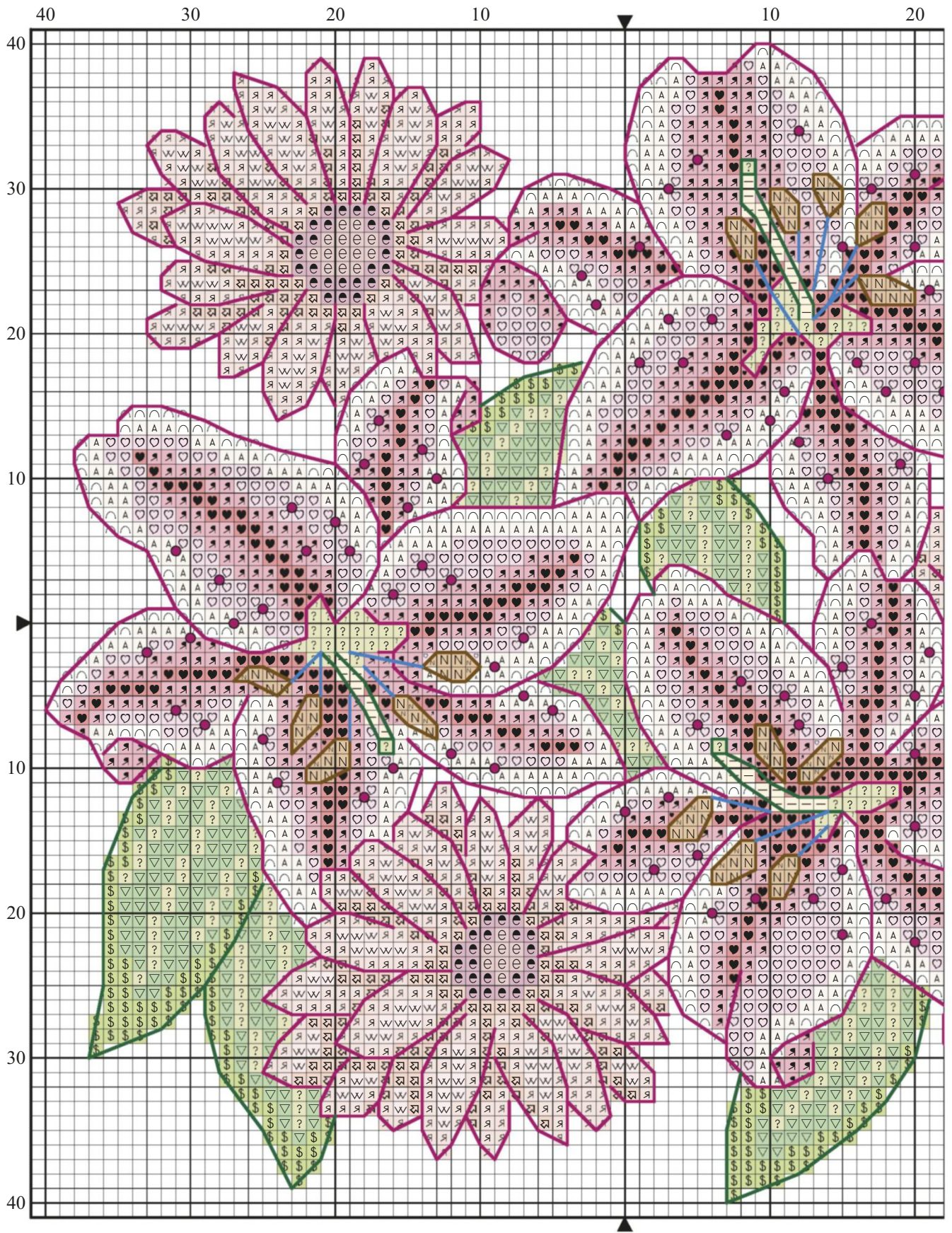


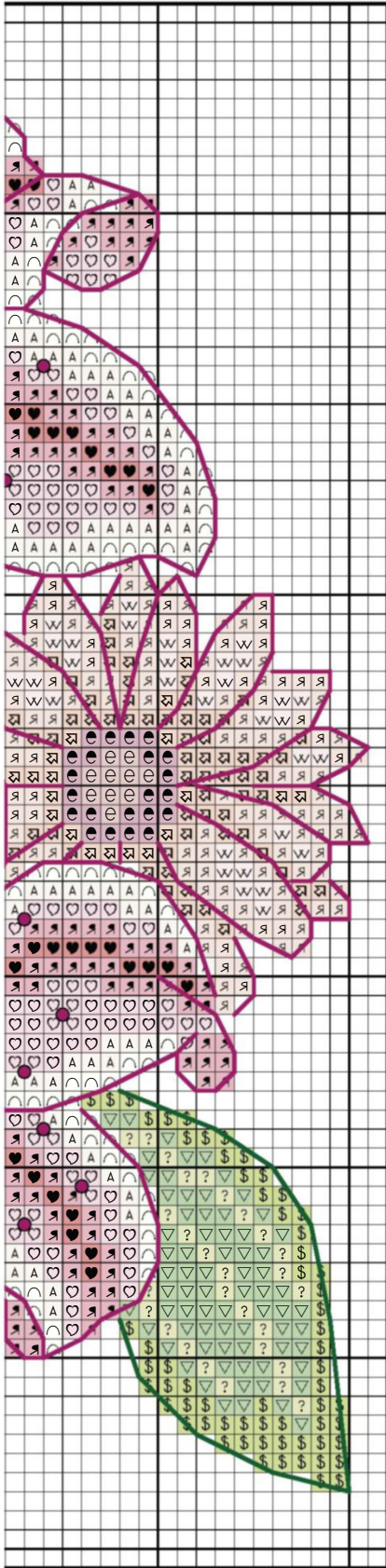
GREAT
GIFT FOR
FLOWER
LOVERS



Bring the beauty of these fabulously colourful flowers into the heart of your home this season







Stargazer Lilies key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|------|--------|---------|----------------|
| ♥ | 601 | 63 | 703 | dark pink |
| ♠ | 603 | 55 | 505 | pink |
| ♡ | 605 | 1094 | 613 | light pink |
| ▽ | 701 | 227 | 1305 | dark green |
| \$ | 703 | 238 | 1307 | green |
| ♣ | 760 | 1022 | 405 | salmon pink |
| я | 761 | 1021 | 404 | dk salmon pink |
| A | 819 | 271 | 501 | baby pink |
| N | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| ? | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | grass green |
| w | 3713 | 1020 | 502 | lt salmon pink |
| e | 3726 | 1018 | 810 | plum |
| ● | 3802 | 1019 | 2608 | cherry |
| — | 3823 | 386 | 2512 | yellow |
| ∩ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | white |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|---------------|
| — | 150 | 59 | 508 | raspberry |
| — | 934 | 862 | 1506 | avocado green |
| — | 975 | 355 | 2303 | dark ginger |
| — | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | white |

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|-----------|
| ● | 150 | 59 | 508 | raspberry |
|---|-----|----|-----|-----------|

STITCH COUNT 80 high x 81 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 14.5x14.5cm (5¾x5¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

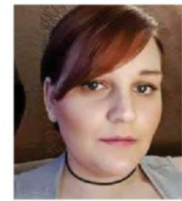
Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 35x35cm (13¾x13¾in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 15.5x15.5cm (6¼x6¼in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £20

*For stockists see page 90

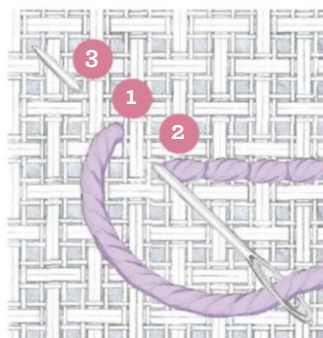
Rebecca READER PANEL



“ My mother-in-law’s kitchen is currently having a makeover, so I’m going to stitch this pretty floral piece for her – it’s perfect as the kitchen overlooks the garden. ”

How to...

add backstitch to your design



Always add any backstitches to your design after you’ve finished all the whole stitches and fractionals. Thread your needle with whichever coloured thread is indicated in the key. Following the backstitch line on the chart, make your stitches as shown in the diagram on the left. Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2 then back up at 3, stitching in a two steps forward, one step back motion. Keep your backstitches neat and taut by not stitching over more than one block at a time.

TOP TIP

Before framing your finished piece, wash and press it to ensure that it looks its absolute best



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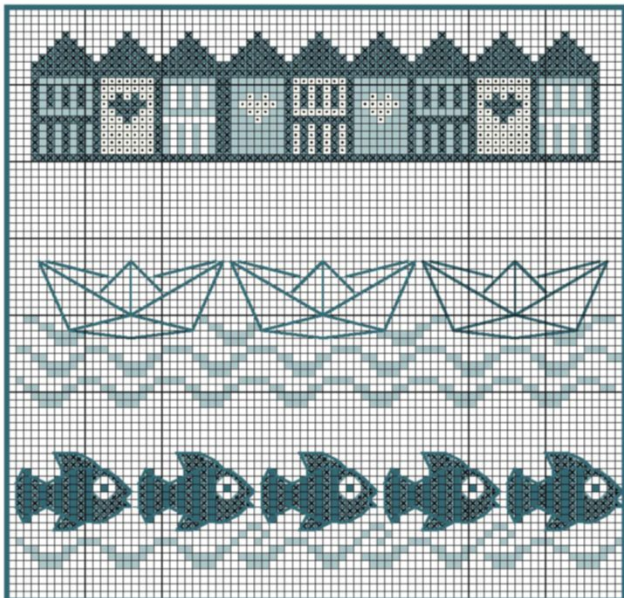


578



503

Beautiful sea and ocean motifs can be found in the new embroidery booklet "MARITIM" (No. 104/300). Iridescent corals and colorful tropical fish meet beautiful shells and ships in soft shades of blue.

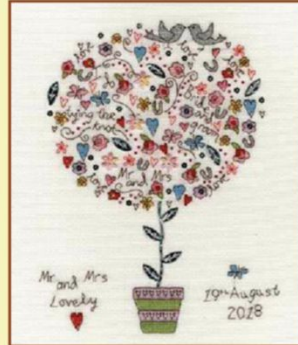


1 thread: back stitch; 2 threads: cross stitch | DMC: blanc, 598, 807, 3809

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Out & About

Get involved in the stitching fun this month – we've rounded up the most exciting campaigns, clubs and events so that you can join in with them all!

THE WORLD OF
**Cross
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CHARITY OF THE
MONTH

EPILEPSY ACTION

Getting together for a cuppa and a slice of cake is always lovely, and doing it on Friday 19 October means that you can also raise money for Epilepsy Action. The charity's annual Tea Break event is a chance to improve the lives of everyone affected by epilepsy, as well as increasing awareness of a condition which affects 600,000 people in the UK. You can order a free toolkit to get your event off to a flying start, which includes cupcake flags, balloons and posters. Alongside your tea and cakes, why not also sell some cross stitched goodies?

APPLY For more details and to find out how to get involved, go to www.epilepsy.org



The Knitting & Stitching Show

Plan a great day out at the UK's biggest textile event, The Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace in London. From 11-14 October, there will be over 250 workshops, talks and demonstrations, as well as lots of stalls – perfect for topping up your stash before Christmas! WOXs readers pay £13 instead of full price for adult standard, early bird and concessions using code **WORLDCS18**. (T&Cs apply. Code expires on 10 October 2018.)

MORE Go to www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/london



Dates for your diary

6 SEPTEMBER

ON SALE: THE WORLD OF CROSS STITCHING
Our November issue starts the countdown to Christmas! There's an All Our Yesterdays 16-month calendar, fun dinosaur birth sampler, cute gingerbread motifs, remembrance wreath and lots more. See page 94 for details.

18-20 OCTOBER

CRAFT4CRAFTERS SHOW

BATH & WEST SHOWGROUND, SHEPTON MALLET

Be inspired this autumn with the Craft4Crafters show. Held at the lovely Bath and West Showground in Somerset, this show features craft displays, workshops, stalls, competitions and more! There's also a café on site, so you can relax with a cuppa after all your browsing. Visit www.craft4crafters.co.uk for more information and to book your tickets.

21 OCTOBER

BRUSH LETTERING WORKSHOP

THE MAKERY, BATH

If you love the trend for calligraphy, this workshop headed up by Cassie from Ivy Inks Paper Co will teach you all you need to know to create your own beautiful typographical design. The session runs from 10.30am-1pm and costs £48. Visit www.themakery.co.uk to book your place.

25-28 OCTOBER

CREATIVE CRAFT SHOW

SEC, GLASGOW

Stitchers, knitters, jewellers and papercrafters will love this show, which also features a special Crafts for Christmas festive section covering food, gifts and live music. Tickets cost £9 in advance and can be booked on the organiser's website at www.ichf.co.uk.



Brush calligraphy Learn the basics of this beautiful craft and make your own piece to display

Answer: King Island, Australia

WHERE AM I?

This amazing destination lies between the mainland of Australia and Tasmania. The notorious Roaring Forties winds have wrecked many a ship on its rocky coast. I took my husband there for his birthday and also took the time to read my latest issue!

Petra Matthews, Australia



Send in your travel snaps!

Send us a photo of yourself with a copy of your favourite mag to 'Where Am I?' at our usual address, on page 17. If you're featured, you'll win a John Clayton kit from the Internationals range by Heritage Crafts*, worth £29.99.

* For stockists see page 90



Your letters

We love to see what you've been stitching and hear your news, so send in your photos, letters and tips today!

Star Letter

OVER THE FINISH LINE

This is a project I started 10 years ago. It only has 14 colours, but it was the largest project I had undertaken, and I had to set it aside several times, sometimes for months at a time. After three moves, two kids and a wedding, I finally managed to finish it while my husband was in hospital a few weeks ago. I will be having it professionally framed, and in the meantime I'm starting on some smaller projects to get my stash down a bit. I've been looking forward to saying this for a long time: "The horse is FINISHED"!

Rebecca Crecelius, Indiana, USA

Hannah: *It might have taken over a decade, but we think that your finished horse was worth the wait, Rebecca! This stunning 'Fire and Ice' design by Kustom Krafts is so striking – it's amazing the level of detail that you can achieve with such a limited colour palette!*



✉ **Over the finish line**
Rebecca took 10 years to complete this design



SUE

HANNAH

LEELA

Rocking robin

This cheeky little robin is a kit from Bothy Threads. I love the way it looks all scruffy and fluffed-up. I shall be making it into a cushion to put on my favourite chair for Christmas – that is if my husband doesn't pinch it first, as he loves this design and it puts a smile on his face every time he sees it.

Jennifer Moville, Merseyside

Sue: *This little fellow is such a cutie! He's so realistic, too – I just want to give him a cuddle! Making it into*

a cushion for the festive season is a great idea, Jennifer. Since your husband is so keen on it as well, I think you'll have to stitch a second version so you can make him his own Christmas cushion!



✉ **Rocking robin**
Jennifer's husband is a big fan of this cute scruffy bird!

Win!

Our Star Letter writer wins this brand-new 'Shooting Star' kit and 'Four Seasons' chart pack from the Highland Family range designed by Genny Haines.

MORE: For more details, visit www.goldleafneedlework.co.uk



WRITE TO US AT: Letters, The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, Tower House, Fairfax St, Bristol BS1 3BN



✉ **A little birdie**
Peggy loved stitching this pretty cover kit

A little birdie

When I received issue 266, I loved the 'Spring Bird' cover kit. It was so quick to stitch and so beautiful, and I completed this card in less than three hours. Thanks for the lovely designs!

Peggy, via email

Leela: *It's always great to hear from readers that they enjoy stitching the cover kit, so thank you for letting us know how much you liked the 'Spring Bird' card, Peggy. It's such a versatile design, and is sure to be loved by whoever the lucky recipient is! I hope you also enjoy stitching this month's miniature Christmas cards.*

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

I really enjoyed doing this project called 'Glory of Autumn' from Dimensions. It was challenging at times with much counting, and it took me about three months. I've also been catching up on my small items and Christmas cards. I love your magazine!

Phyllis Smith, Canada

Leela: *This design has such beautiful hues – perfect for this time of year. At 36x28cm (14x11in), and with such detail, we're really impressed that you finished it in just three months, Phyllis! If you enjoy stitching autumnal scenes and would like another big project to get your teeth into, I think you'll really like Amanda Butler's stunning seasonal design over on page 26. Or for something a bit quicker, the woodland animal cards on page 56 also feature pretty autumnal motifs.*



✉ **Down by the riverside**
This lovely Dimensions design is the ideal autumn project

POTTY FOR POTTER!

As the film of *Peter Rabbit* has been released, I thought I would share a picture of a Peter Rabbit design that I stitched for the birth of my great granddaughter. The pattern is made up of different Beatrix Potter characters, which I put together to make this lovely picture. I also stitched a similar design for her first Christmas, as my granddaughter is Peter Rabbit mad!

Vivien Cashmore, West Midlands

Sue: *Here in the WOXS office we love Beatrix Potter's classic characters too, Vivien – the delicate watercolours translate really well into cross stitch. Your granddaughter must have been thrilled to receive two beautiful stitched pieces for her daughter, and these are sure to become treasured heirlooms. If you'd like to stitch more Peter Rabbit designs for your great granddaughter, Hobbycraft has a wide range, including a beautiful cushion kit featuring the cheeky little bunny!*



✉ **Potty for Potter!**
Vivien's granddaughter is a huge Peter Rabbit fan

Perfect Present



✉ **Very mice stitching!**
This cute design for her friends is Louise's first-ever finish

VERY MICE STITCHING!

This is my latest project, which is going to be a wedding present. I've never actually completed a full design before, so I'm over the moon with this finish. One of my oldest friends is getting married and both his fiancée and he are huge Disney fans, so it's a very fitting and personal design for them. I really do hope they like it!

Louise Rousell, via email

Hannah: *Your friends are sure to love this gift, Louise – it's so cute! I like the way that it's a nod to their love of Disney as well as celebrating their wedding. Creating a unique piece of stitching to commemorate someone's special day is such a lovely thing to do.*

If you're looking for more gifts for weddings, check out Maria Diaz's elegant sampler in issue 264, and Shannon Wasilieff's embellished wedding design in issue 269, both of which can be bought as back issues – turn to page 91 for details.

EMAIL US AT: letters@cross-stitching.com or join our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/TheWorldofCrossStitching



✉ **Back to black**
Carolyn completed this Bothy Threads design in a fortnight

Back to black

This is my latest finished design, 'Pumpkin House' by Bothy Threads. I was really excited about stitching in only black threads and it took me just over two weeks to complete. It really helped me through a very difficult time in my life. Luckily, I am now back on track and am already planning on stitching the 'Trick or Treat' design from issue 259. Thank you for your amazing designs!

Carolyn Parry, via email

Hannah: *What a striking piece, Carolyn! I love the printed fabric that this design uses, and how it's embellished with pretty silver sequins and a plume of smoke in silver metallic thread. It's also great that stitching it helped you through a tough time.*

As a Halloween fan, hopefully you'll enjoy the treats we've included in this issue to celebrate the event. Check out Rhona Norrie's fun party set on page 70, which features a sign, badges, tags and a hanging spider's web – all the stitching you need to make your Halloween party go with a bang! We've also reviewed four Halloween kits in our design round-up, which you'll find over on page 37.

You've got the love

One of my best friends from university got married last November, and after spending a ridiculously long time hunting online for something suitable, I stitched this for them. I somehow managed to complete it within a week – I was seeing crosses for days! They both loved it, and the wedding was beautiful. It was definitely worth the time and effort – and is one of my proudest projects to date.

Roni Steel, Exmouth

Sue: *What a lovely design, Roni, and a perfect gift for a wedding. It's also incredibly impressive that you finished it in such a short space of time – you really are a super stitchee!*



✉ **You've got the love**
Roni stitched this beautiful design to mark her friends' wedding last year



✉ **Just for you**
Yaina stitched these cards using the kit from issue 265

JUST FOR YOU

This is my version of the 'Pretty Posies' trio in issue 265. I very much enjoyed stitching these – they were simple, but very effective, and perfect for making into cards for Mother's Day, Easter and my cat-loving friend's birthday!

Yaina Davies, via email

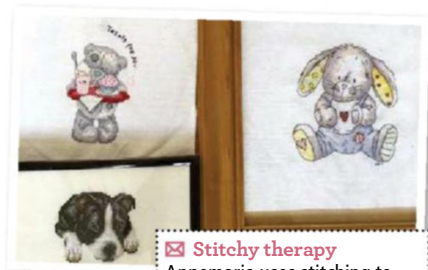
Leela: *These little cuties, which are based on illustrations by Makiko, make such appealing cards, Yaina. I'm glad you were able to use them for such a range of occasions, and do keep an eye open for some more super-sweet Makiko designs coming up in future issues!*

Stitchy therapy

Here are some of my recent finishes. I love the charts in your magazine. Stitching is part of my therapy as it keeps my injured arm moving. I have to go very slowly, but I still enjoy it.

Annemarie Browning, York

Hannah: *It's great to hear how your hobby is also helping your health, Annemarie! Keep up the good work.*



✉ **Stitchy therapy**
Annemarie uses stitching to help heal an arm injury

Subs Stars

WORTH £27.99

Each month we randomly select three subscribers to win a prize as a thank you

This month's winners are:

- ▶ Michelle Hillman
- ▶ Jennie Dockerty
- ▶ Kirsten Hindle

Prizes every month!

The lucky winners will each be receiving this 'Birdsong' design sewing basket. It's perfect for stashing your stitchy bits and bobs and keeping them organised. You'll never be stuck for a needle or misplace your scissors again!

Immediate Media Co., publishers of World of Cross Stitching, Subs Stars giveaway Terms and Conditions: Prizes were dispatched before the on sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

To subscribe turn to **page 44**

WRITE TO US AT: Letters, The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, Tower House, Fairfax St, Bristol BS1 3BN

SWEDISH STITCHES

My mother-in-law, Ulla Maartensson, is a devoted cross stitcher from Tomelilla, Sweden. She's pictured here with a couple of her latest designs. Ulla says that she finds stitching just so relaxing – she loves to sit down for an hour or two and see a pattern slowly emerge into a motif. Her passion for cross stitching started in her teens and since then her family and friends have got used to receiving cross stitched greeting cards on their birthdays. Over the years Ulla has made tablecloths, cards, bookmarks, pillow covers and more by the thousands. She has given most of it to charity, but some have been exhibited in Ulla's home town library.

Claus Grue, Sweden

Leela: Thanks for sharing Ulla's beautiful stitching and her story with us, Claus. It's very inspiring that Ulla has been stitching for so long. You must feel very proud of her accomplishments, and enjoy getting to share in the fruits of her skills! It's also very impressive that Ulla has had her work exhibited in public.

We're very pleased to see that *The World of Cross Stitching* has played a part in Ulla's hobby over the years – we recognise that delicious-looking sweets chart as a Lucie Heaton design from issue 185, back in 2011!

If you're included in the photo holding your stitching, then we'll boost the size of the prize as it's always lovely to see your friendly faces!



Kokeshi cuties

I started stitching with these three lovely Kokeshi dolls, which were the gift with issue 240. As a beginner, I find *The World of Cross Stitching* very inspiring and addictive. **Cayen Jelliane Baron, via email**

Sue: We're so pleased that the magazine has inspired you. Do share photos of your next projects with us!



✉ Kokeshi cuties
These dolls are beginner Cayen's first finishes

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Don't forget to send all your letters and photos in to us!

Email us at: **letters@cross-stitching.com**

or write to:
The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN

Get in touch on Facebook, too!



Each letter printed only in *The World of Cross Stitching* and not in any other cross stitching magazines will win a crafty mystery prize!



*For stockists see page 90

✉ Swedish stitches
Ulla has been a cross stitcher since her teens and has completed thousands of projects



Gorgeous garments

Many years ago I travelled with my husband on the Trans-Siberian Express. Along the journey I was knitting a jumper. The Russian lady who worked in the wagon liked the pattern, so I gave it to her, and in return she gave me the cross stitch pattern she was working on. At that time I didn't stitch much, but when I got pregnant I had enough time to put the pattern on a blouse. Since then I cannot stop stitching! For many years I only used to wear the blouse on special occasions, but now I think it is worth showing it. Here I am wearing the original blouse I made, and I've also just finished a black blouse. The big rose motif was the gift with issue 256 and the bunch of roses is from the 'Vintage Florals' chartbook, which was a gift with issue 218. I'm so happy with your magazine – there are so many things I want to make and as you can see, I keep them all!

Anja Koote, the Netherlands

Hannah: Cross stitching is a wonderful way to personalise your clothing and you've done a fab job with these blouses, Anja. How lovely that a chance meeting on a train led to your catching the stitching bug!



✉ Gorgeous garments
Anja loves personalising clothes with stitching

EMAIL US AT: letters@cross-stitching.com or join our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/TheWorldofCrossStitching

DESIGN BY **HELEN BRINDLEY**

Wild at heart

This roar-some menagerie of delightful jungle animals will brighten a child's bedroom or playroom



Spying exotic animals such as giraffes, lions and zebras is usually only possible on safari or if you visit the zoo, but this cute scene is a guaranteed way to spot all of them from the comfort of your own chair!

Featuring a group of friendly animals gathered under a luscious fruit tree, this adorable scene is bursting with colour and life. There's a lot of backstitch detail, especially on the zebra and the leaves, so take your time over this to achieve a crisp finish.

French knots are also included to add texture, with some using one strand and others three, which creates an interesting feeling of depth and structure. This is a great project to tackle if you want to practise

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 30 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, half cross stitch, backstitch, French knots
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Intermediate

Practise
French
knots

your French knots and increase your confidence with them.

Children will love having this adorable quintet of creatures hanging on their wall, as will animal-loving friends, so don't monkey around – start stitching this project today! ➤



Meet the designer

Helen Brindley

“I've always loved drawing animals and so this group was a delight to bring to life. My favourite is the cheeky monkey hitching a lift on the giraffe's back, with his curly tail and cute-as-a-button smile!”



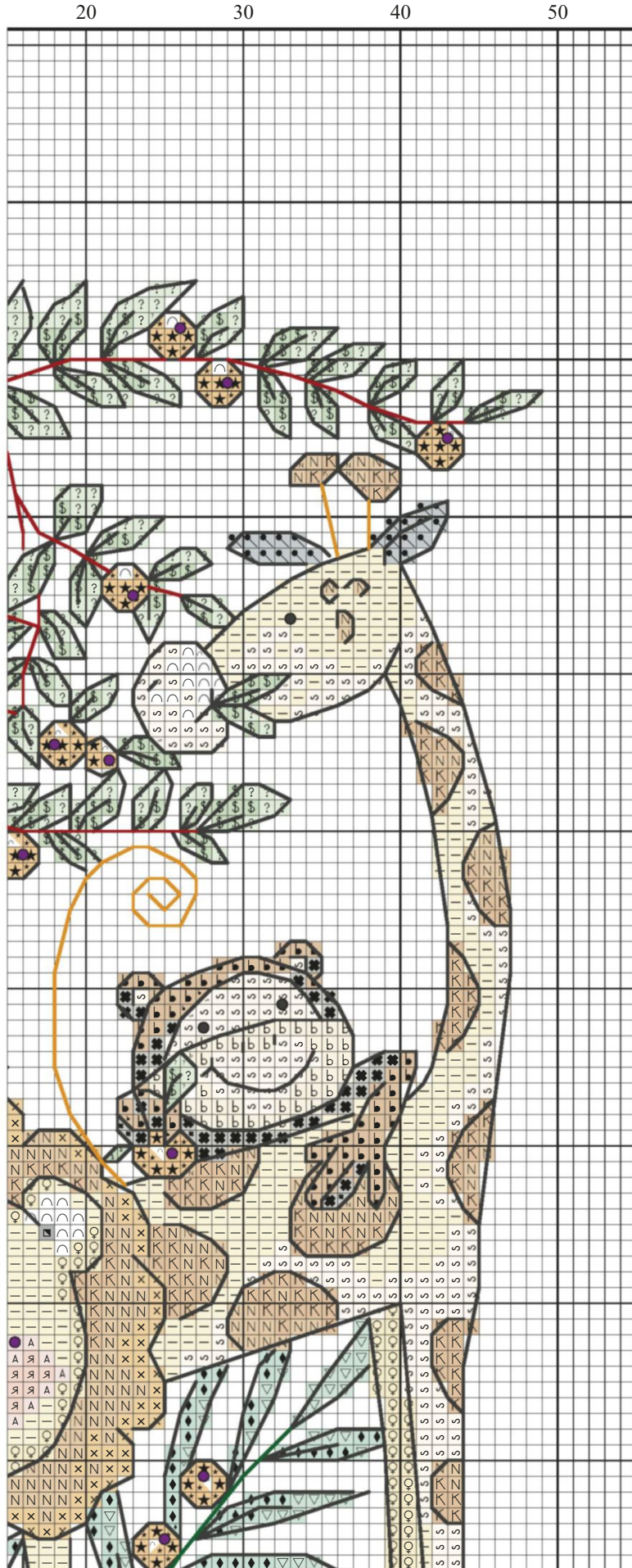
HAND
STITCHED
WITH
LOVE



Delight the children in your life with Helen's colourful collection of jungle animals



Jungle Scene chart (top left)



Jungle Scene key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|-------|--------|---------|--------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ☞ | 317 | 400 | 1714 | grey |
| ♥ | 349 | 1098 | 212 | red |
| ☞ | 351 | 10 | 214 | coral |
| ☞ | 422 | 943 | 2102 | light brown |
| ☞ | 433 | 357 | 2602 | dark tan |
| ☞ | 434 | 310 | 2009 | tan |
| ♀ | 676 | 981 | 2208 | sand |
| — | 677 | 886 | 2207 | light sand |
| s | 712 | 926 | 2101 | cream |
| b | 739 | 366 | 2014 | light tan |
| ★ | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| ☆ | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| я | 760 | 1022 | 405 | pink |
| A | 761 | 1021 | 404 | light pink |
| \$ | 912 | 209 | 1213 | green |
| ? | 954 | 203 | 1207 | light green |
| ◆ | 958 | 187 | 1114 | dark emerald |
| ▽ | 959 | 186 | 1113 | emerald |
| N | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| x | 977 | 1002 | 2302 | light ginger |
| P | 3755 | 140 | 1013 | blue |
| ■ | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
| K | 3826 | 1048 | 2306 | dark ginger |
| Q | 3828 | 373 | 2103 | brown |

✦ Half cross stitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|---------------|
| ∨ | 964 | 185 | 1112 | light emerald |
|---|-----|-----|------|---------------|

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------|
| — | 420 | 374 | 2104 | dark brown |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 420 | 374 | 2104 | dark brown |
| — | 959 | 186 | 1113 | emerald |
| — | 975 | 355 | 2303 | very dark ginger |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| ● | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

✦ French knots in three strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| ● | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

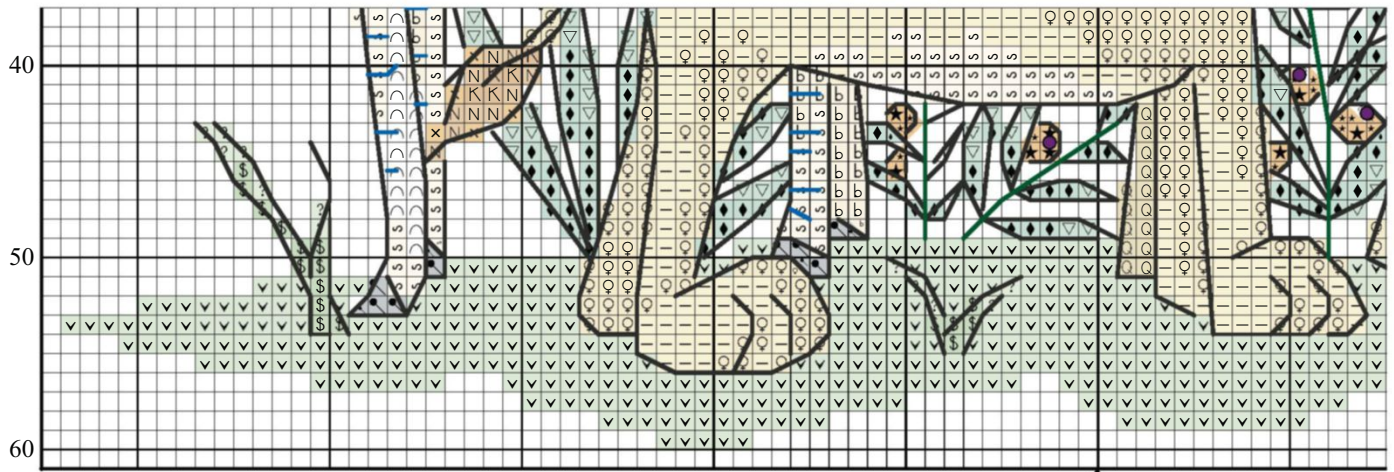
STITCH COUNT 120 high x 108 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 22x19.5cm (8½x7¾in)

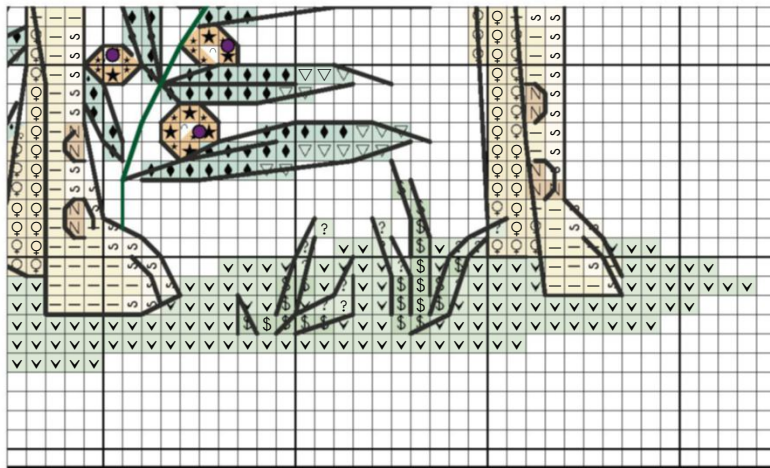
SKEINS NEEDED 2x3799 (dark grey)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Jungle Scene chart (top right)



Jungle Scene chart (bottom left)



Jungle Scene chart (bottom right)

Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 38x36cm (15x14¼in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 22.5x20.5cm (8¾x8in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £30

*For stockists see page 90

TOP TIP

Stitch the lion on his own and patch him onto a birthday card for a little one who's a big cat fan!



Rebecca READER PANEL



“ My two-year-old nephew absolutely loves anything to do with lions and monkeys, so I will definitely be stitching this for him to hang in his bedroom. I'm going to personalise it with his name, too. ”



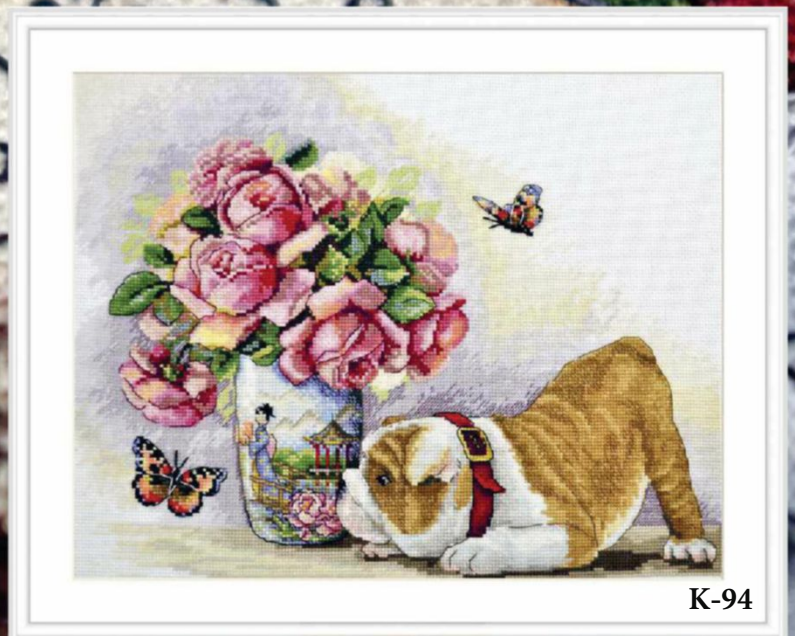
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DESIGN BY **AMANDA BUTLER**

Nature's paintbox

This seasonal woodland scene is the ideal project to snuggle up with on chilly autumn evenings

When autumn arrives, the trees put on a magnificent display for us, their leaves turning to jewelled reds, oranges and yellows. Amanda's seasonal design allows you to capture this amazing transformation on fabric, creating a wonderful scene in stitches that's alive with all the colour and movement of the woods.

The depth and texture of the trees and water in this design are achieved with a mix of whole cross stitch and half cross stitch, while backstitch is used sparingly to create a sense of perspective. It also uses blending, a technique where you stitch with two different colours of thread at the same time, which

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 85 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, blending, half cross stitch, backstitch, French knots
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Intermediate/advanced

Try blended stitching

helps to create the beautiful shades of autumnal trees.

This is a companion piece to Amanda's 'Bluebell Woods' from issue 255. Whatever the season, some things remain, however – the same rabbit is perched next to the river in both! ▶



Meet the designer

Amanda Butler

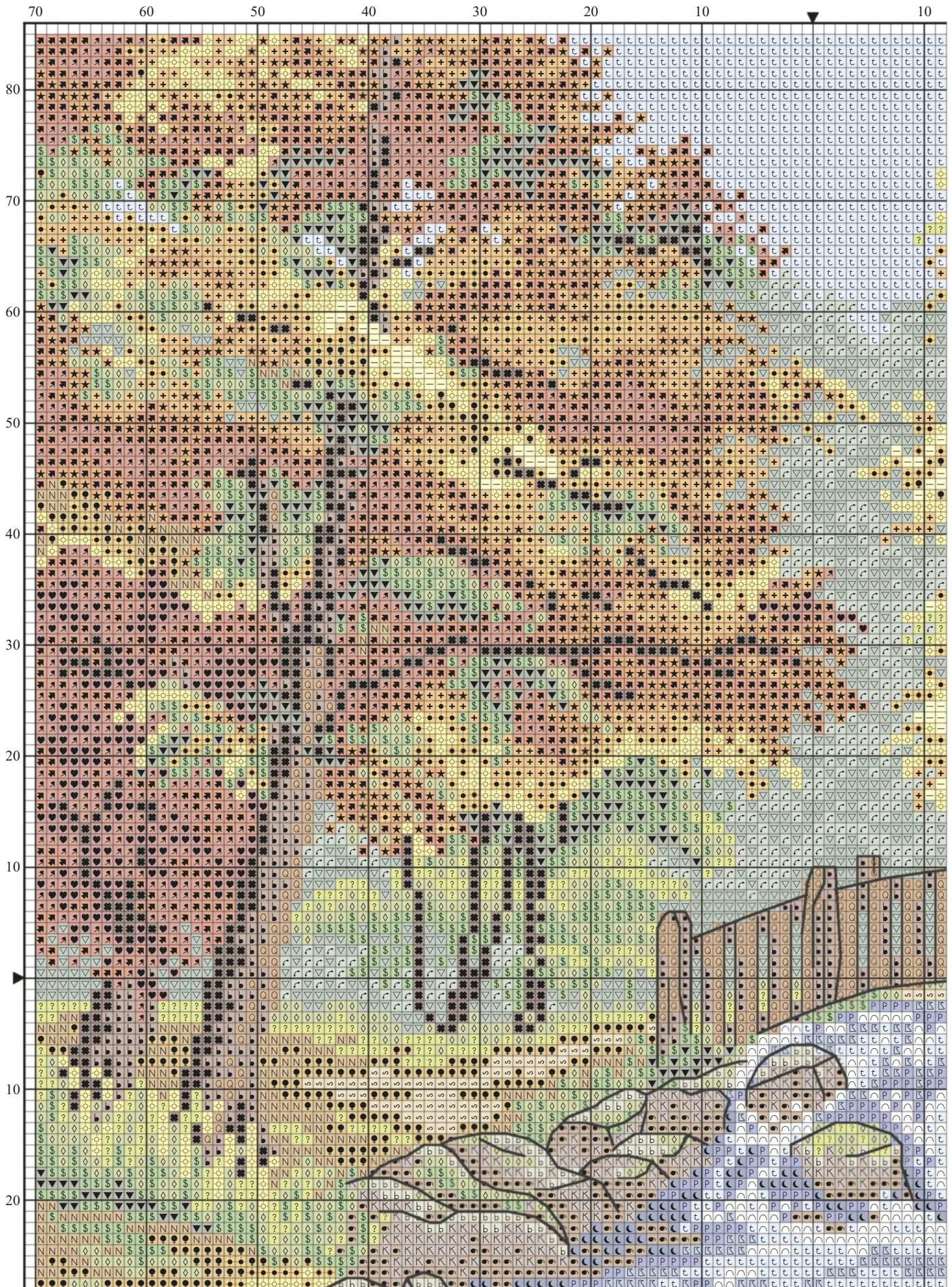
“I had some lovely feedback from readers about my 'Bluebell Woods' chart last year, so it inspired me to create the next one in my seasonal woods series. I hope you like it as much as my spring design!”



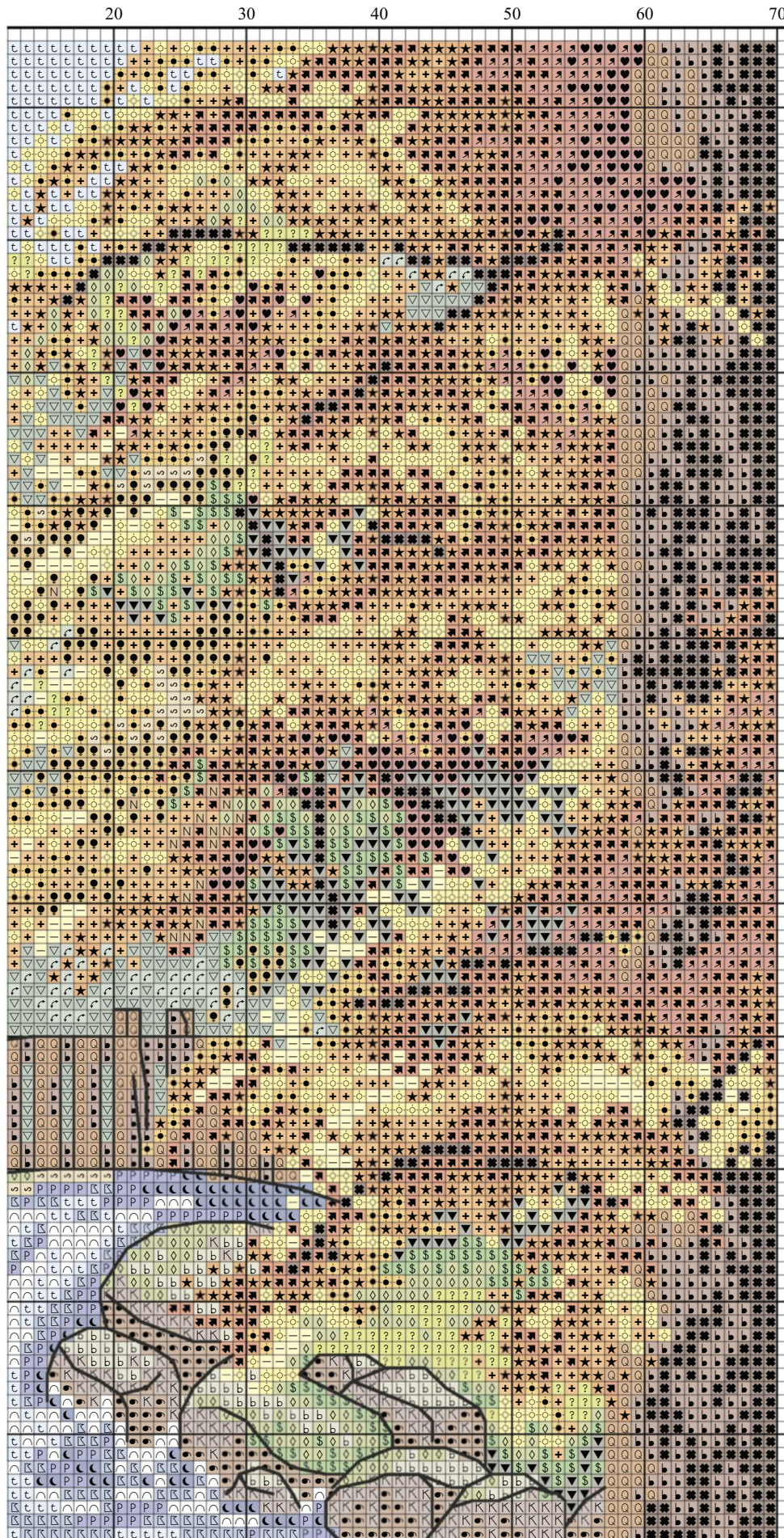
STITCH
FOR THE
SEASON



Take up
your needle
and thread and
celebrate the
arrival of
autumn!



Autumn Woods chart (top left)



Autumn Woods chart (top right)

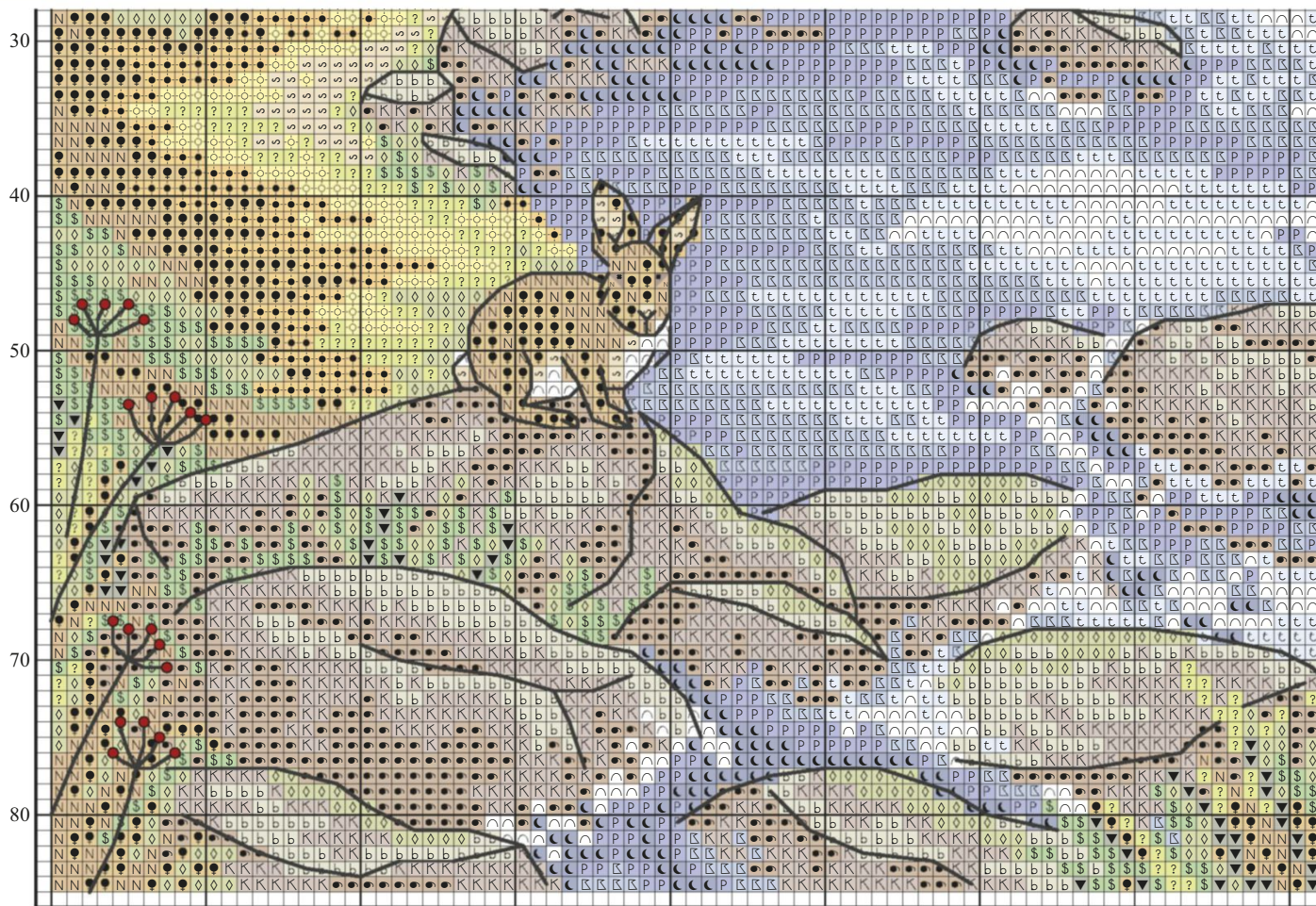
TOP TIP
 If stitching in a frame or hoop, always take out your project between stitching sessions so it doesn't become creased or marked



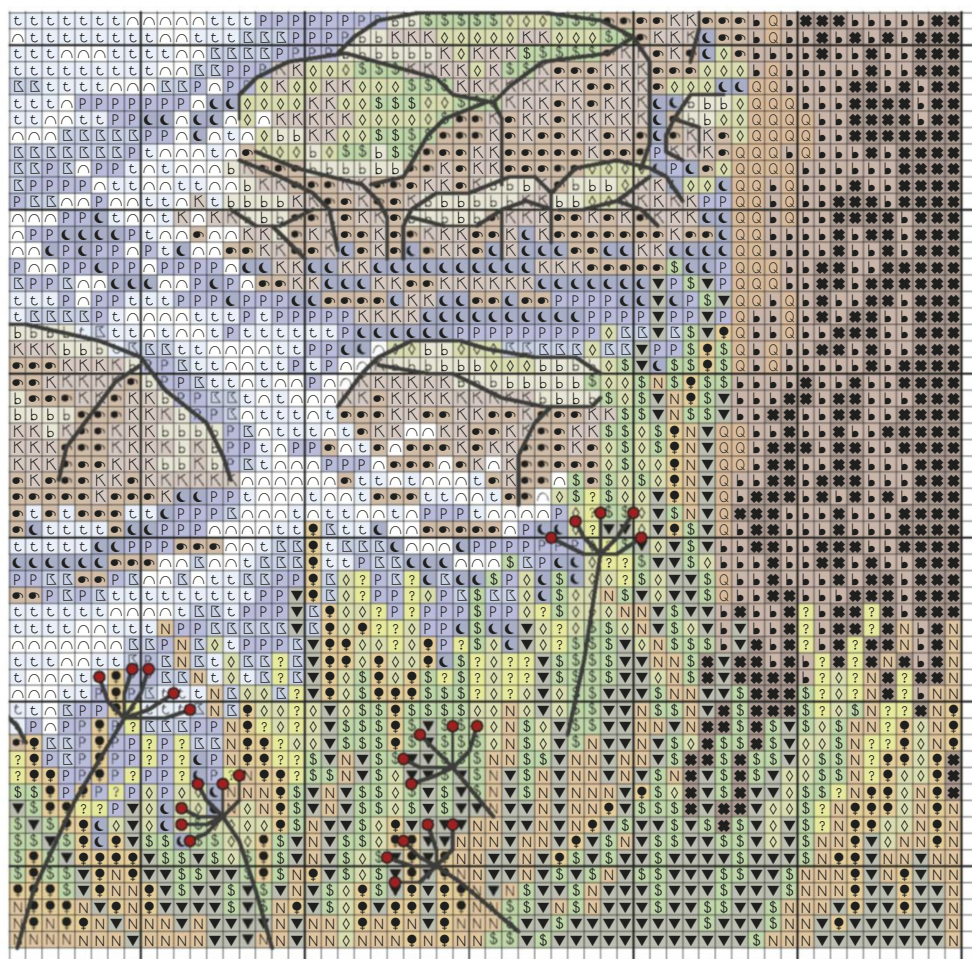
Cassie
 READER PANEL



“ This project reminds me of the creek near my grandpa’s house. I’m planning on stitching it for my mum to remind her of where she grew up and to bring back all the relaxing feelings of the countryside. I’ll finish it in a distressed wooden frame. ”



Autumn Woods chart (bottom left)



Autumn Woods chart (bottom right)

Shopping list

- ✦ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 50x45cm (19¾x17¾in)
- ✦ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✦ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✦ Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 31x25.5cm (12¼x10in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £36

*For stockists see page 90

“I’m lucky to live close to Westonbirt Arboretum, and autumn is my favourite time of year to visit. Amanda’s design reminds me of my walks there.”

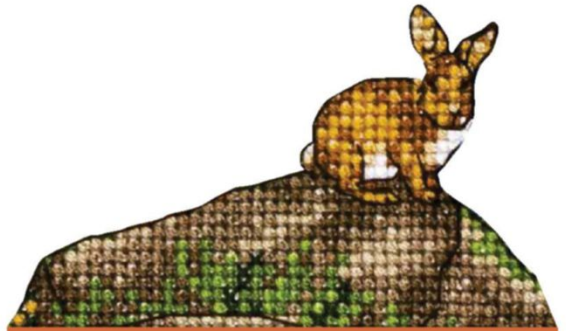


HANNAH, DEPUTY EDITOR

How to...

stitch with blended threads

Amanda has used the two-tone effect of blended stitches to add texture and movement to the river and trees in her design. Begin by checking on the key for how many strands of each different coloured thread you will need for your special blended stitches. Then thread your needle with the different colours as indicated and stitch the cross stitches as normal. The blended stitch will have its own symbol on the chart, different to the one indicating the individual colours that make it up if you need to stitch them on their own.



Autumn Woods key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|-------|--------|---------|-----------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ⌘ | 304 | 19 | 511 | red |
| ⊖ | 307 | 289 | 104 | lemon yellow |
| ☾ | 312 | 979 | 1005 | dark blue |
| P | 322 | 131 | 1004 | blue |
| Q | 434 | 310 | 2009 | tan |
| — | 445 | 288 | 103 | lt lemon yellow |
| ★ | 608 | 332 | 206 | bright orange |
| ⌘ | 666 | 46 | 210 | light red |
| ∞ | 738 | 367 | 2013 | light tan |
| + | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| N | 780 | 309 | 2212 | old gold |
| ● | 783 | 306 | 2509 | gold |
| ♥ | 814 | 22 | 601 | dark red |
| ▼ | 890 | 683 | 1314 | almond green |
| b | 898 | 360 | 2006 | chestnut brown |
| \$ | 905 | 257 | 1412 | dark green |
| ◇ | 906 | 256 | 1410 | green |
| ? | 907 | 255 | 1308 | light green |
| t | 3325 | 129 | 907 | light blue |
| ⊛ | 3371 | 382 | 2004 | chocolate brown |
| ● | 3781 | 1088 | 2003 | dark brown |
| b | 3782 | 899 | 1911 | light brown |
| K | 3790 | 393 | 1905 | brown |

✦ Cross stitch in one strand of each

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|----------------|
| ⊞ | 334 | 977 | 910 | powder blue |
| | 3755 | 140 | 1013 | lt powder blue |
| ⊙ | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |

✦ Half cross stitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------------|
| ⌘ | 503 | 876 | 1702 | light sage green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------------|

✦ Half cross stitch in three strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| ▽ | 502 | 877 | 1703 | sage green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 3371 | 382 | 2004 | chocolate brown |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------------|

✦ French knots in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|
| ● | 898 | 360 | 2006 | chestnut brown |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|

STITCH COUNT 170 high x 140 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 31x25.5cm (12¼x10in)

SKEINS NEEDED 2x608 (bright orange), 2x666 (light red)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Online news

Explore a world of cross stitching without leaving the house – we've found the websites, communities and charts you'll love!

Join us on Facebook

Chat 24/7 on our Facebook page – here's what you've missed!



OUR FAVOURITE POST

Natalie Chapman says: "Today I finished stitching this absolutely stunning Faby Reilly design from issue 268. All there is left to do now is the beads... and maybe the matching biscornu." It looks so pretty, Natalie – we love it!



194 people like this



YOU LIKED

Steve Keeley reported that he's "only got about 8,000 stitches left to do!" on this epic Rose Cottage design. Keep on stitching Steve – you're so close! And do share a photo when it's finished, as we'd love to see the final piece.



428 people like this

And the winner is...

We asked you on Facebook: What's your favourite holiday to stitch for?



The results are in, and they're indisputable: most of you like to stitch for Christmas, so you'll definitely enjoy our festive trio of cards gift this month. Halloween

is second – turn to page 70 for a set of spooky makes to get the party started.

EASTER



HALLOWEEN



CHRISTMAS



VALENTINE'S



Websites you'll love

Next time you log on, check out these amazing stichy sites



Lovers of cute, modern cross stitch will enjoy browsing Thread or Dead Club (www.etsy.com/uk/shop/threadordeadclub). Run by Victoria, you'll find a range of designs that fit into a 12.5cm (5in) hoop, including a fab Harry Potter-themed '9¾' and a fun 'I Heart Coffee'.



Add a touch of cross stitch colour to your sofa with Sheena Rogers Designs' mini cushion kits (www.sheenarogersdesigns.co.uk). Sheena's detailed designs span a huge range of subjects from traditional motifs, such as birds and flowers, to more unusual gargoyles and bingo!

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Blogger of the month



Mother-and-daughter team Lisa and Sarah Cox are the talented duo behind A Spoonful of Sugar, the blog where they urge you to 'make, bake, create' – that's just our cup of tea! Their website features lots of lovely tutorials and ideas for cross stitch projects, plus sewing, knitting, papercraft, DIY and baking, as well as sneak peeks into Lisa and Sarah's lives in Perth, Australia.

MORE To find out more about Lisa and Sarah, head to www.aspoonfulofsugardesigns.com

Free Download

We love Janlynn's designs, and were very excited to find that it has a range of free charts to download on its website at www.janlynn.com/FreeCrossStitchCharts. cfm. This pretty butterfly is a great quick stitch that would make a lovely card. You'll also find lots of other fab charts to download, including seasonal designs and fun sayings.



MORE Find 100s of other free charts in the 'Charts & Patterns' section of our website at www.cross-stitching.com

Ask the experts

Our panel of professionals are here to help you with your cross stitch dilemmas – however large or small



Fiona Baker

Fiona is our Technical Editor so she's ready to answer your problems on all things stitch and chart related



Heather Nugent

Heather is our Charting Editor and is on hand to answer any technical stitching questions that you have



Jenny Barton

Design pro Jenny has been creating projects for us for years and is ready to take on your design challenges



Hannah Kelly

All set to hunt down those elusive charts and products, Hannah's here to find shopping answers that you need



Katriel Costello

Stitching guru Katriel has worked in the industry for years, so has ample knowledge to answer any queries

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Jenny's designed a 45th wedding anniversary card!

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Help from fellow stitchers on how to stay motivated

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How to bind your hoop for better stitching

37 DESIGN ROUND-UP

Be very scared with our Halloween design picks



A pressing problem
For stubborn creases, wet the fabric before ironing

A pressing problem

Q I've just finished a piece of work but cannot iron out the crease made by the frame I had the aida stretched over. Do you have any ideas I can try, please?

Lorraine Baker, via email

A Heather says: When trying to get rid of stubborn creases, first make sure your stitching is washed and free of dirt or grime, or you could permanently iron the markings into your fabric. The trick to ironing is to get the crease really wet, so if

you've already washed your piece, spray well with some clean water before you begin. Set the iron slightly hotter than you would usually use it, and lay a sheet of white cotton over the top so as not to scorch the fabric at this higher setting. As you iron, pull the fabric taut, then continue to do this as much as possible as it cools, to help ensure that the fabric remains flat. Repeat again if necessary, until the crease has completely gone.

Let's make a date

Q I would like to cross stitch an eternal calendar, but I can't find a chart for one. Do you have any patterns or ideas for how I can do this?

Eleanora Murphy, London

A Katriel says: Why not try making one yourself, Eleanora? Simply pick your alphabet and numbers style – have a look though some of our back issues as we always include an ABC every month, with some also featuring numbers too! Plot out the days of the week and months of the year on graph paper, before stitching them onto perforated paper, not forgetting to leave space at the top for the hanging holes. Add in a set of numbers (remember you'll need to stitch two number 1s and 2s, for days 11 and 22), punch holes along the top edges and hang over hooks fixed onto a decorated wooden board. You can buy perforated paper in a range of colours from The Nutmeg Company*, starting at £4.25 for two A4 sheets. ►



Let's make a date
Perforated paper comes in a range of colours

In the spotlight

HANNAH BELLIS, *PAPERCRAFT INSPIRATIONS*

Add some pizzazz

Q How can I make my greeting cards look less basic? Your magazine always has nice finishing touches to your greeting cards. Where would be a good place to pick up some simple techniques to build on?

Sean Stirling, via Facebook

A Hannah says: There are so many flourishes you can add to your cards to set off your stitched elements. From simple stickers and trimmed paper ornaments and flowers and die-cutting your own apertures, you can do as much or as little as you like. I'm the Editor of *Papercraft Inspirations* magazine, which is a great place to start!

Every print issue comes with free papers and printables, such as these fun Woodland Friends cards, right. Take a look at our website, www.papercraftinspirationsmagazine.co.uk. You'll find guides to all the basic techniques here, plus you can download and print out illustrations and papers – perfect for your first steps in card making.

Published 13 times a year, you can subscribe to *Papercraft Inspirations* magazine, available in both print or digital formats, at www.buysubscriptions.com.



Add some pizzazz
Check out *Papercraft Inspirations* for some great ideas



We've got it covered!
Grime guards are perfect for straight-sided frames

We've got it covered!

Q How do you stop your fabric from fraying if you can't sew around it? I've seen people use a grime guard, but where does the excess material go, especially on a hoop?

Natasha Fryer, via Facebook

A Katriel says: Grime guards are great for tucking all your fabric up inside to keep it out the way, but are really only designed for straight-sided Q-Snap-type frames. Lakeside Needlecrafts* offers a selection of grime guards in a range of sizes, from 15¼x15¼cm (6x6in) to 43x43cm (17x17in), that cost from just £6.49 each. If you prefer to stick with using a hoop, however, why not cover the edges of your fabric in acid-free masking tape? This low-cost solution means you can use a hoop or a frame. Use a piece of fabric slightly larger than you would normally, to allow for the edges to be cut off afterwards, rather than trying to peel off the tape.

Changing shades

Q This will be my second time stitching Bucilla's 'Nighty Night' design – the first time was for my granddaughter 24 years ago. Now my friend is going to be a great gran, I have decided to do it again, but some of the thread numbers are not on the current brand lists. Any idea what the alternative shades are?

Betty Dobson, by email

A Fiona says: Cyberstitches* has a brilliantly handy list of conversion tables, one of which converts Bucilla threads to DMC. Check it out at: www.cyberstitchers.com/stitching_tools/floss_conversion_charts/bucilla_to_dmc. Cyberstitches also has conversion tables for Anchor and many other brands, if you need this for other projects in the future.

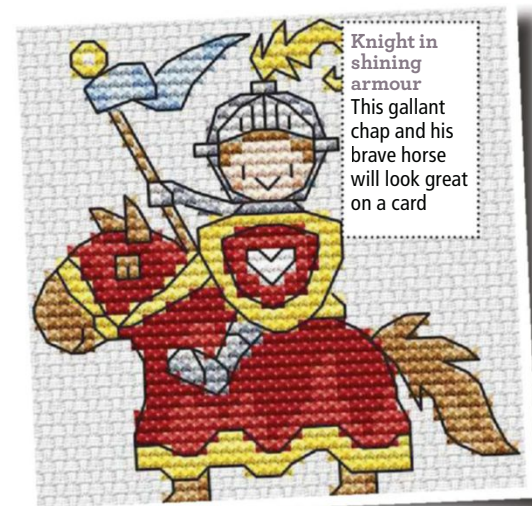
Knight in shining armour

Q I would like to make a first birthday card in the theme of King Arthur or a dragon. Are there any cute designs available? I am a subscriber to *The World of Cross Stitching*, but would rather not have to look through my issues to find one if possible!

Lorna Wray, via Facebook

A Hannah says: Lucie Heaton* is coming to your rescue with this super-sweet design of a knight on his trusty steed! This gallant chap is part of a set of four 'Fairytale' patterns (FTS0618), which also includes a cute fire-breathing dragon,

as well as a stitcky carriage and princess. The whole set costs just £3.50 and each design is approximately 40x40 stitches – the perfect size for making a birthday card to be proud of.



Knight in shining armour
This gallant chap and his brave horse will look great on a card

Wishes granted



Request a design and our resident design expert, Jenny, might just chart it for you...

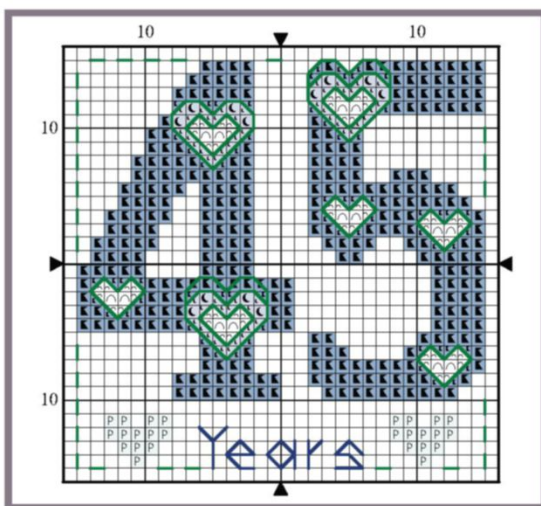
Straight from the heart
Customise this pretty card by changing the heart colours



Q I have three 45th wedding anniversaries coming up over the next five months. Can you help me out with a card design please? I've seen many charts for other anniversaries, but not the 45th (which is sapphire). Thank you very much!

Susan Kearsey, via email

A Jenny says: This is a simple design so you'll have plenty of time to stitch all three cards. Change the colours of the hearts and add some beads or sequins to make each one different.



Sapphire Anniversary key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------|
| ○ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ■ | 796 | 134 | 914 | dark blue |
| ◐ | 799 | 145 | 910 | blue |
| ◑ | 800 | 144 | 908 | light blue |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| — | 796 | 134 | 914 | dark blue |
| — | 800 | 144 | 908 | light blue |

STITCH COUNT 30 high x 30 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 5.5x5.5cm (2¼x2¼in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

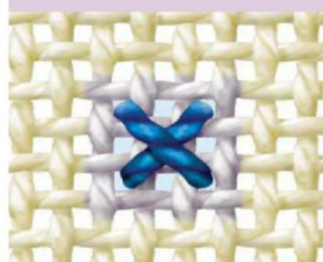
Please note: Jenny can only fit in fairly small designs and for copyright reasons she is unable to chart logos, or characters from films and TV.

An even keel

Q How easy is it to stitch on evenweave when you mostly stitch on aida?

Diane Barber, by email

A Heather says: It's essentially just the same – although evenweave is woven in a finer count, so each cross is worked over two threads to achieve the same size stitch. Just bring your needle up at the bottom corner of the square and take it down two holes across and two holes up, then repeat for the other arm. Start small, and you'll be flying along in no time.



An even keel
Stitching on evenweave is similar to on aida – just work over two threads



Welcome to the world...

Q My best friend is about to have a baby girl, and I'd love to stitch something special to hang in the baby's room. Any suggestions?

Holly Thirlwell, by email

A Hannah says: We've featured a few baby samplers recently in *WOXS*: check out Amanda Gregory's toy shelf from issue 271, or Lucie Heaton's Furry Tales balloon design in issue 263. Go to www.buysubscriptions.com for back issues.



Welcome to the world...
A baby sampler like these two makes a great gift

STITCHING HELP!

Don't forget to send all your stichy questions and design requests in to us!

Email us at:
experts@cross-stitching.com

Write to:
Ask the Experts,
The World of Cross Stitching,
Immediate Media Co,
Tower House, Fairfax Street,
Bristol BS1 3BN

Send in queries via Facebook too:



We will try and answer your questions as soon as we can, but if you're working to a specific deadline then do let us know!

Friendly advice

We asked our Facebook fans how they keep themselves motivated stitching big projects – here's what they said...

facebook



✦ **Christine Lynn**
I always have a smaller project on the go at the same time. If I get a bit jaded with the large project, I just move to a small one then return once that's completed.

✦ **Debbie Webb**
I stitch to a deadline, so I have to do it, otherwise the recipient won't have a birthday/Christmas present!

✦ **Lorna Smith**
I often have a completely different project on the go to alternate with – a finish always spurs me on to complete other projects. I also sometimes just have a day of stitching, as even if I'm

not feeling the project at the start of the day, I won't want to put it down by bedtime!

✦ **Joanne Thoday**
I try not to see it as a large project and pick smaller areas out to stitch, increasing my confidence and motivation to complete it as a whole!

✦ **Scarlett Flame**
I take photos to track the progress. Sharing these with friends helps keep me motivated. If I haven't posted a photo in a few days, they start asking for them, which helps to keep me going.

✦ **Ali Manifold**
I keep my WIP next to my

'spot' on the couch so I can pick up where I left off really quickly. Out of sight, out of mind really does ring true with larger projects!

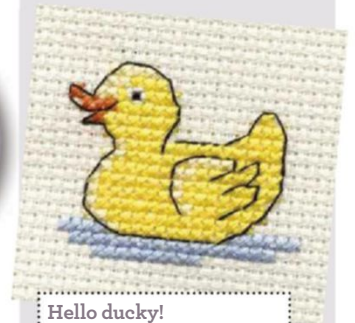
✦ **Kerry-Anne Swales**
I keep in mind how lovely it will look on my wall, or how pleased the recipient will be if I'm making it as a gift.

Find us on Facebook and join in with the chat. If you're lucky, your tip might appear here! Just log on to www.facebook.com/TheWorldofCrossStitching and hit 'like' at the top of the page!

QUICK Q&A

I'm looking for a small chart of a duck. I have been through all my issues of *WOXS*, but I haven't found any (yet). Can you please help at all?
Lin Dudley, via Facebook

Hannah says: We featured a pretty duck quilt project from Zweigart back in issue 187, which you could stitch individual motifs from. Alternatively, why not check out Mouseloft's* Rubber Duck (003-B02sml) kit from its Tiddlers range, which comes with 14-count Zweigart fabric, DMC threads, a needle and full instructions, and costs just £1.44.



Hello ducky!
Make a splash with this Mouseloft Tiddlers kit

TECHNIQUE FOCUS



Binding your embroidery hoop

Q I'd like to try binding my embroidery hoop. I've read that you can bind with ribbon, but have also seen suggestions to use bias tape. Is there a benefit to using one over the other?

Kimberly Suazo, via Facebook

A **Heather says:** Binding your embroidery hoop is a great way to ensure it holds your stitching with an even tension, but it can also help to create a bit of cushioning to minimise damage to completed stitches too; if you need to move the hoop around a larger project, for example. You can buy pre-bound hoops but it's just as easy to make your own, and it's also a big money saver! We'd recommend using bias tape or even spare fabric strips instead of ribbon, as a more textured material holds the fabric in the hoop a lot better than a smooth ribbon surface might.

To bind, begin wrapping the inner hoop with your chosen material by placing the end at an angle – you could clip or glue in place to make it easier. Continue

wrapping the material around the hoop, overlapping the previous wrap by half each time, keeping the material taut. You want to try and create as smooth a surface as possible, without too many bumps.

Once covered, overlap the end and fix in place with a few stitches between the layers. You could bind the outer hoop in the same way if you wanted to add extra cushioning, but you'll probably need a longer tightening screw so it will still connect afterwards.



Binding your hoop
Use bias tape to get the perfect grippy surface

I know your magazine is covered by copyright, but I wanted to photocopy one of your charts to enlarge it and make it easier to see. That way, I can cross the stitches off as I go so as not to ruin the original pattern. Am I allowed to do this?

Nicky Davies, Cornwall

Fiona says: Yes, that's absolutely fine! We're happy for you to copy or enlarge our charts – as long as it's for personal use only, not for re-sale. Thank you for checking.

Design round-up

Halloween stitches

We've hand-picked a selection of kits & charts so you can make this Halloween truly spooktacular!

BEAUTIFUL BEADING

GHOSTLY FUN PIN

Mill Hill's 'Ghostly Fun Pin' (956199) from Sew and So* shows a beaming ghost wearing a big green bow and holding up a pumpkin. Stitched mainly in white threads, the friendly ghost is outlined in white beads and decorated with purple stars and swirls. The kit is well packaged and the instructions won't leave newcomers to beads feeling afraid! It makes a great decoration for your home.

Stitch count: 39 wide by 32 high, 6x6cm (2¼x2¼in) on 14-count perforated paper



£6.52

SPOOKY SIGN

TRICK OR TREATERS



£4.80

Here's a wonderful sign to hang in your window at Halloween. 'Trick or Treaters' by Durene Jones Cross Stitch* is available as an instant download. She's used 26 vibrant thread colours to bring the scene to life, making it a really fun project to stitch for autumn.

Stitch count: 180 wide by 152 high, 32.5x27.5cm (12¾x10¾in) on 14-count aida

STYLISTED STITCH

HALLOWEEN CAT

Worked in whole stitches only, with just a little backstitch, the vibrant 'Halloween Cat' by Satsuma Street* will appeal to beginners – the blocks of colour in this stylised design make it an easy stitch. The chart is in full colour and symbols and is available as a digital download or as a paper version.

Stitch count: 104 wide by 116 high, 19x20cm (7½x8in) on 14-count aida



£8.58

CUTE KITTY

BLACK CAT

A fluffy black kitten with saucer eyes watches two bats flitting across a pumpkin-orange full moon. If you want to go cute for Halloween, then stitch 'Black Cat', a kit by RIOLIS from Stitcher*. At 15x15cm (6x6cm), it's a small design that uses just whole stitches, plus it's stitched on 10-count white aida and uses wool/acrylic threads in a limited colour palette, making it a great project for beginners.

Stitch count: 55 wide by 55 high, 15x15cm (6x6in) on 10-count aida



£5.95

*For stockists see page 90

DESIGN BY **DURENE JONES**

Sitting kitty

Stitch this colourful patchwork cat and use her to keep your doors open in style!

Add a touch of whimsy to your home this season with Durene's adorable cat doorstep. Designed in a patchwork effect, this cute feline is a riot of pastel colours and geometric shapes. But she's more than just a pretty kitty – as she's also a doorstep, she's a helpful addition to the household!

The patchwork effect is cleverly created with backstitches across the patterned blocks, giving the impression of fabric that's stitched together. The details of the cat's face are then created in backstitch using three strands, adding strong definition to the whiskers, eyes and mouth.

Beginners will love this design, as it needs just whole stitches and

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 40 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, backstitch
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Beginner/advanced beginner

Perfect
for
beginners

backstitch to complete, while more experienced stitchers will find this a satisfyingly quick stitch and enjoy seeing the pattern emerge from the threads. Turn to page 41 for step-by-step instructions on how to turn your stitching into a doorstep, and it won't be long until this pretty patchwork puss is in residence! ▶



Meet the designer

Durene Jones

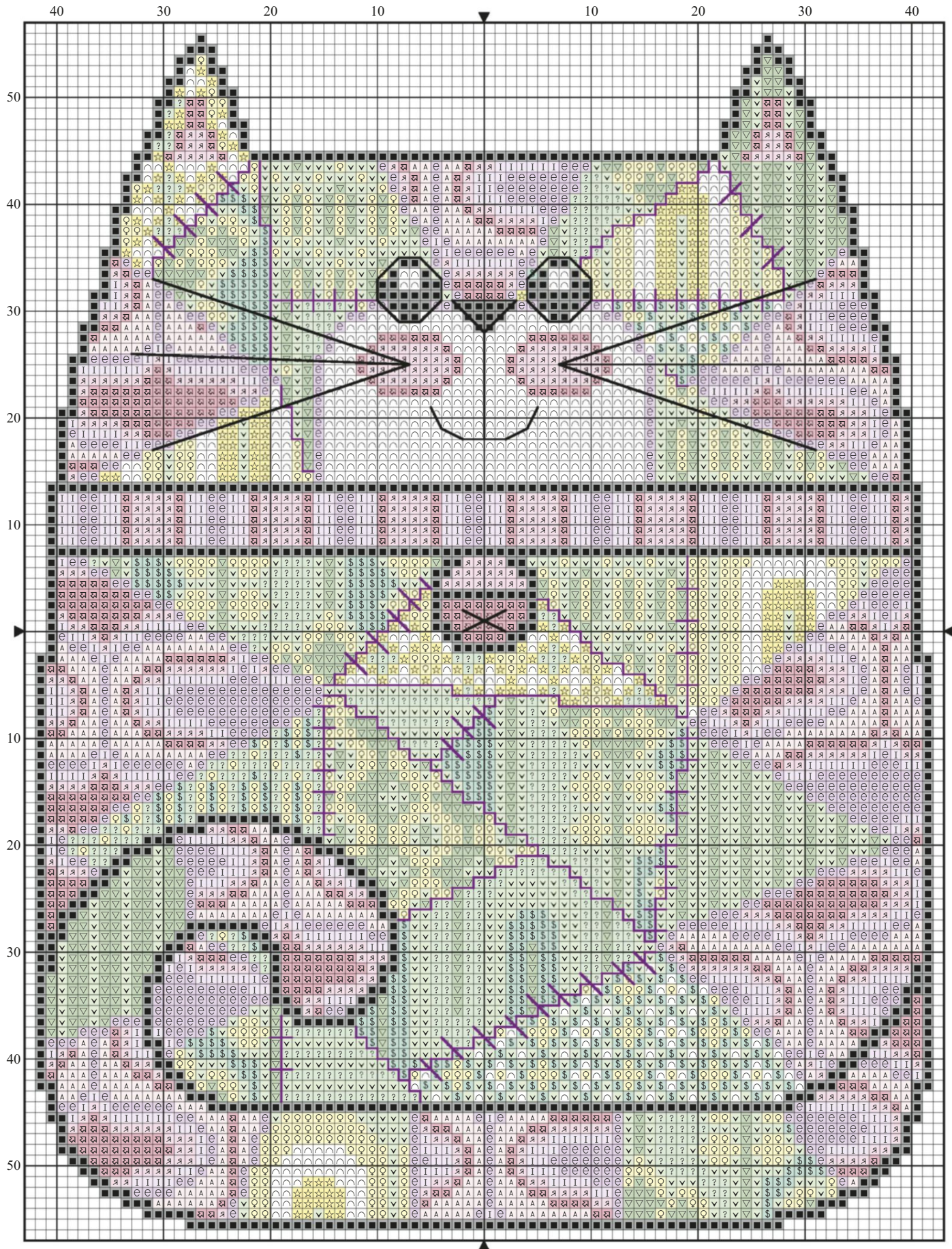
“I'm always at my happiest when I'm designing cross stitch that features cats! My own cat Smudge gave me the idea for this, as he often stands by the door with his tail curled up over his paws.”



MAKE
FOR YOUR
HOME



Use your cross stitch skills as a clever new way to create the illusion of patchwork fabric!



Shopping list

- ✗ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 30x25cm (11¾x9¾in)
- ✗ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✗ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✗ Backing fabric, 4kg of (uncooked) rice and stuffing of your choice from local stores

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £18

*For stockists see page 90



Patchwork Cat key

✗ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|-------|--------|---------|---------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| e | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
| I | 211 | 342 | 801 | light lilac |
| ☆ | 307 | 289 | 104 | yellow |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ♀ | 445 | 288 | 103 | light yellow |
| ⊠ | 603 | 55 | 505 | pink |
| я | 605 | 1094 | 613 | light pink |
| A | 818 | 23 | 502 | baby pink |
| ▽ | 912 | 209 | 1213 | green |
| ∨ | 955 | 206 | 1210 | light green |
| \$ | 958 | 187 | 1114 | emerald |
| ? | 964 | 185 | 1112 | light emerald |

✗ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|-------|
| — | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
|---|-----|----|-----|-------|

✗ Backstitch in three strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

STITCH COUNT 112 high x 84 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 20.5x15cm (8x6in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Chloe READER PANEL

“I’ve got lots of friends who absolutely love their cats, so this cute doorstep will be the perfect gift for them! The colours are so vibrant and the design is going to be a lot of fun to stitch.”



make a cat doorstep



Wash and press your stitching, then trim it to size, leaving a 2cm (¾in) border. Choose a complementary backing fabric, and cut one panel to match the dimensions of your stitched piece. Then cut two side panels measuring 11x25cm (4½x9¾in) and two panels measuring 19.5x11cm (7½x4½in) for the top and the bottom.



With right sides together, pin one side panel to your stitched piece along the long edge and sew with a 1cm (½in) seam. Sew your back panel to your side panel, then sew the other side panel to the back panel along the long edge to create one long panel. Line up the side panel and front panel, making sure the right sides are together. Sew a seam along the edge to make an inside-out tube of fabric.



On the tube's bottom edge, pin your bottom panel to each of the four sides, with right sides together. Sew with a 1cm (½in) seam. To make the handle, cut a 8x26cm (3¼x10¾in) piece of fabric, fold in half lengthways and sew a 1cm (½in) seam along one long edge.



Turn your doorstep inside out and press. Take your handle and pin it to the top edge, with ends overlapping, then pin your top panel to the top edge. Sew a 1cm (½in) seam, leaving a 6cm (2½in) gap for turning. Turn the doorstep the right way out and fill half way with rice, then pack the remaining space with stuffing. Sew closed using ladder stitch.

Our Best Buys

All the hottest cross stitch must-haves for your shopping list, plus an exclusive offer to make your pennies go further...



Rainbow bright

Words of wisdom

These vibrant designs, with their upbeat messages, have positivity in every stitch



£25 each

WORDS OF WISDOM

As soon as we saw these funky kits by Stitchspiration* our needles started twitching! These bold designs are stitched onto fabric handpainted by owner Charlie in her Somerset studio. The kit comes in a choice of 14-count aida or 28-count evenweave in four vibrant colourways – rainbow, sunset, neon pink or yellow, or you can also request a custom colour. Each design measures 49x33.5cm (19½x13in) and the kits include fabric, DMC thread, two gold-plated needles and chart. New to the range are two inspiring quotes: 'Go Big or Go Home' and 'Can'ts, Cans, Dreams, Plans' – perfect when you're feeling in need of some positive vibes.



£3.75

TALL TALES

Encourage little stitchers to pick up a needle and thread and discover the joys of cross stitching with these fantastic 'Fairy Tales Colour-In Cross Stitch Bookmark Kits' from Baker Ross*. Each pack has five pre-punched card bookmarks featuring scenes from Jack and the Beanstalk, The Wizard of Oz, Cinderella, Rapunzel and Red Riding Hood, and includes coloured thread (yellow, green, blue, pink, purple and red), a plastic needle and full instructions. Your little ones can colour in their bookmark, too, before stitching for double the fun. Encouraging both crafting and reading, these kits will make a great activity for a rainy day.

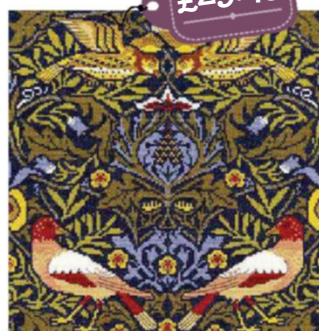
Trendwatching... Arts & Crafts Take inspiration from the

Floral fancy

This House of Bath* tablecloth, napkins and chair pads are inspired by William Morris fabrics



£29.49



Heritage stitch

The 'Bird' kit from Bothy Threads* is based on a William Morris pattern



£74.95

Shades of blue

Make a cushion with this 'Parrots at a Fountain' kit by Millennia Designs*

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

MAKE MINI STITCHES!

New from Tuva Publishing* is this gorgeous book from *The World of Cross Stitching* designer Susan Bates, celebrating all things teeny tiny! *Ultra Mini Cross Stitch Makes* features more than 100 small-scale motifs – from sweet sayings to dinky flowers, plants and animals. They're perfectly sized to fit into small hoops, decorate mobile phone cases or be turned into jewellery, and it's a great selection to have on hand for last-minute cards and gift tags. Add it to your cross stitch inspiration library to dip into whenever you feel the need for a quick stitchy fix. The best things really do come in small packages!



£4.80

SPOOKY STITCHES

These little Halloween cuties are definitely more treats than tricks! Available as an instant download from Durene Jones*, 'Halloween Characters' comes with four charts each measuring 9x9cm (3½x3½in) when stitched on 14-count aida; perfect for spine-tingling cards.

IT'S A MYSTERY

Give yourself a stitchy treat this Halloween and sign up for a mystery box from The Geeky Stitching Co*! Each box contains a tiny 7.5cm (3in) kit, and either a pin badge, needle minder or mini pair of embroidery snips. Waiting for the post has never been so exciting!



£10.99



£5.99

EAR EAR

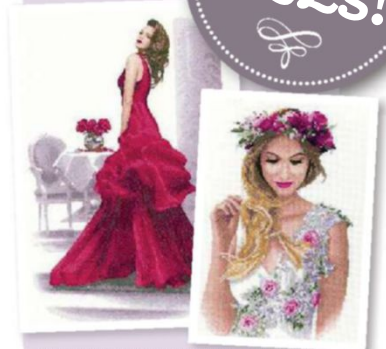
Bears and kittens and bunnies, oh my! Stitch yourself a super-sweet accessory using these DMC Kircum Mini Animal Embroidery Hoop Necklaces. With a choice of 'Cat', 'Bear' or 'Rabbit' and measuring 3.5cm (1½in) in diameter, they come with a chain and are a fun way to wear your cross stitch projects as pendants. They're the perfect partner to Susan Bates' new book, above! There are also matching 10cm (4in) hoops available, costing £15.99, which are a fab way to add instant cuteness to your walls! Frame a delightful design to adorn a child's bedroom or design a little animal face to sit inside the hoop and complete the picture. You'll find all of these animal-tastic accessories at Minerva Crafts*.

*For stockists see page 90

READER OFFER

Elegance is one of Heritage Crafts' most popular ranges, and this month you can get 20% off these kits. This stunning set of designs is based on the artwork of John Clayton and features beautiful characters with a touch of elegance! There are over 20 to choose from, including head-and-shoulders (RRP £38.60) or full-length (RRP £57.90) portraits, both of which come on either 14-count aida or 27-count evenweave. Visit www.hcrafts.com and use the discount code **WOXS272** – valid until 20 September 2018.

SAVE
£££s!



Oh so chic
You can save 20% on these lovely Heritage Crafts kits

artistic movement led by William Morris



£6.09

Perfect patterns
Buy this Papermania Arts & Crafts paper pack from Hobbybase*



£12

Time for tea
Enjoy a cuppa with this Briar Rose Palace mug from Creative Tops*

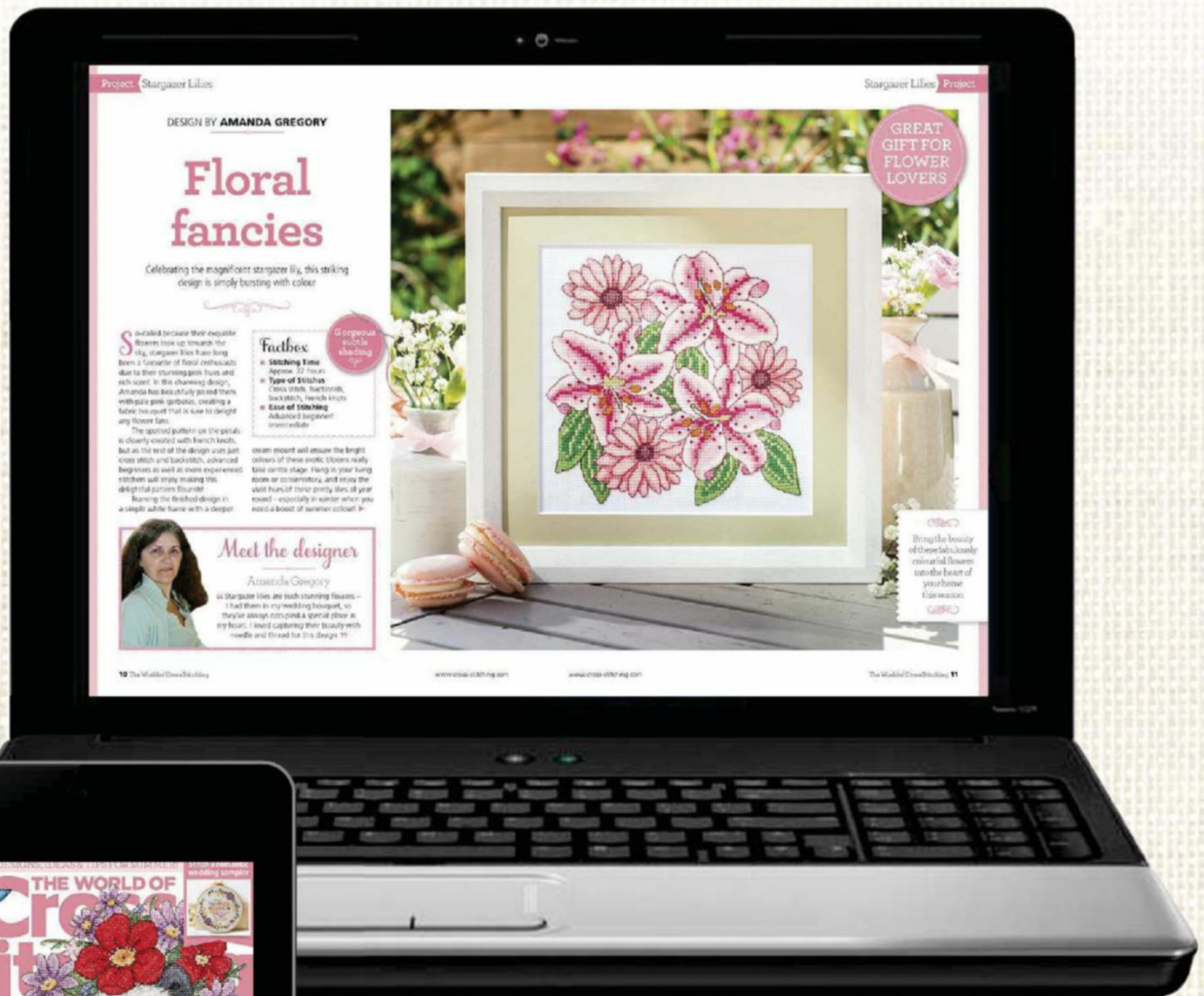
THE WORLD OF Cross Stitching

Britain's No.1

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Just the ticket

BUCKLE UP AND ENJOY THE RIDE WITH THESE 'WHEELY' GREAT TRANSPORT MOTIFS!

41
TRAVEL
IDEAS



Stitch these dynamic designs by Jenny Barton and add some extra va-va-voom to your gifts

- ✕ 41 quick-and-easy motifs
- ✕ Jenny Barton's design inspiration
- ✕ Stitches for every skill level
- ✕ Helpful tips and advice
- ✕ Unique present ideas for your special someone



EQUINE EXCELLENCE

Your horse-mad youngster will be riding high when they see this gorgeous steed! Patch him onto a square aperture card blank from Craft Creations* (AP55U-30).



BLAST OFF!

Create your very own rocket-fuelled pencil topper! Back your stitching onto two layers of felt and stitch around the edges leaving the bottom open for the pencil.



POLE POSITION

Ring the changes for the racing fan in your life with this smart new phone case! Back your design with interfacing, hem and then stitch onto a fabric case of your choice.



SAILAWAY

Wish your friends well in their new ventures with this cute boat! Mount the design onto a single-fold card blank in pale blue from Craft Creations* (SF07U-26).



FLYING HIGH

This jet-setting motif will ensure your passport travels first class! Trim the design leaving two squares, fraying the outer. Back with white paper and patch onto your cover.



ICING ON THE CAKE

Give your cupcakes added get-up-and-go with this fun pogo decoration. Cut out your design and back with card, then attach to a lollipop stick to make a cake poke.



CHILD'S PLAY

The perfect gift for a vehicle-obsessed tot! Stitch six designs onto aida (try bright colours for added impact) then follow the instructions at www.cross-stitching.com.



AT THE WHEEL

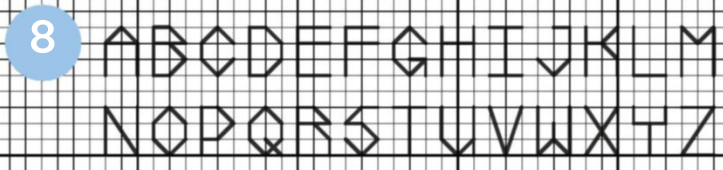
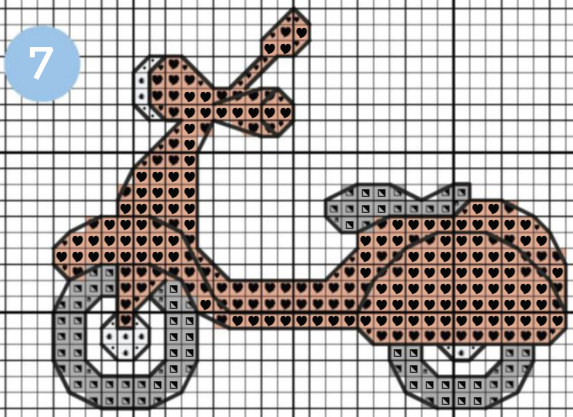
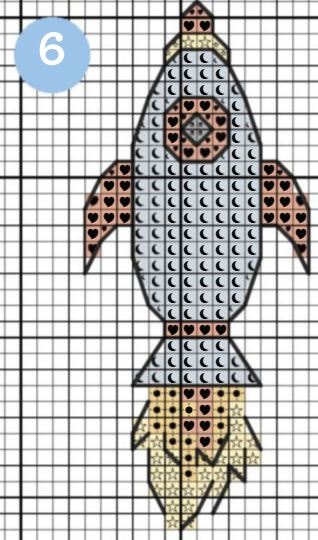
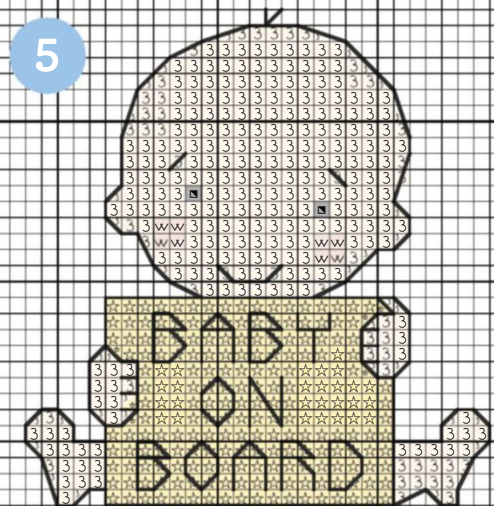
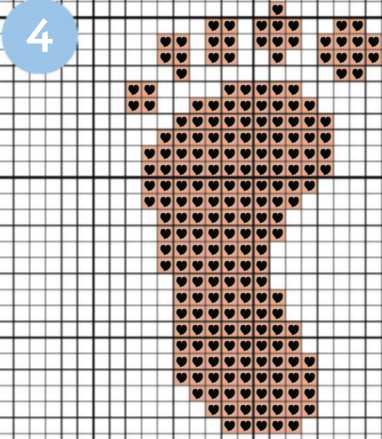
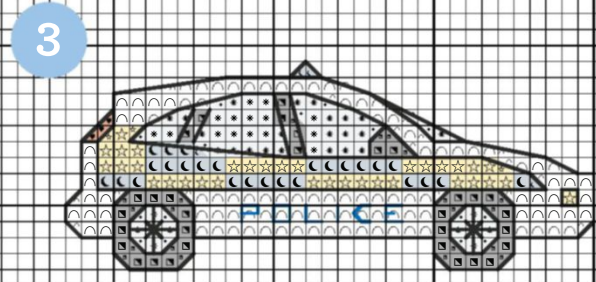
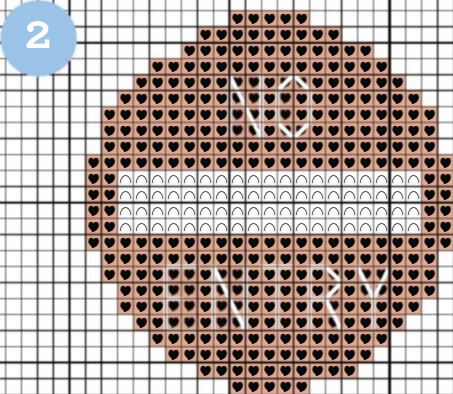
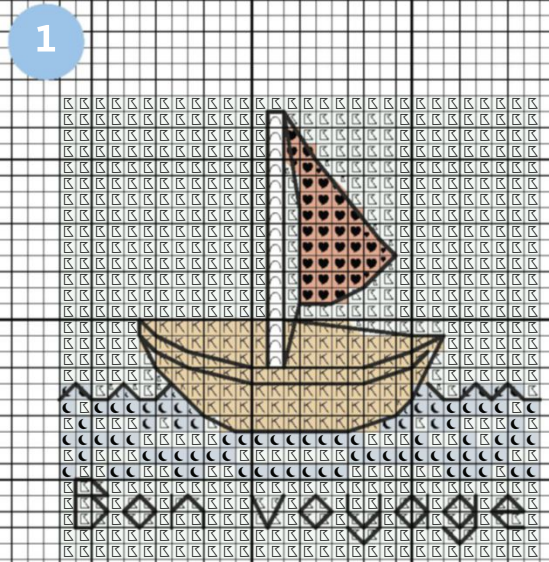
Recognise the driving force behind your family with this snazzy rear-view mirror decoration! Back with plain fabric of your choice for a gift to make any mum proud.

*For stockists, see page 90

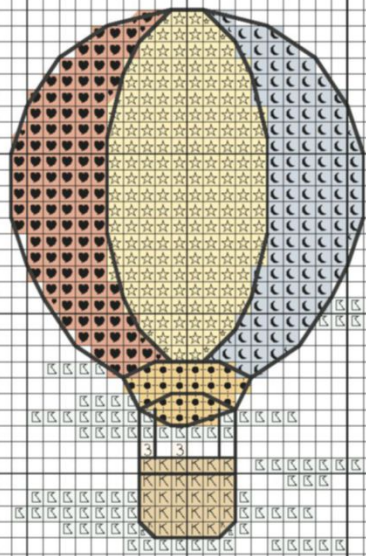
My inspiration

“ There are so many ways of getting around that I was spoilt for choice when designing this collection! Whether you like to ride a bike, or dream of owning your own jet-pack, there'll be something here to get your motor running. ”

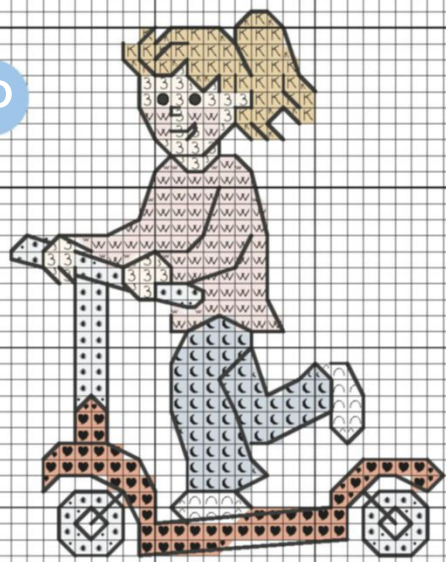
JENNY BARTON, DESIGNER



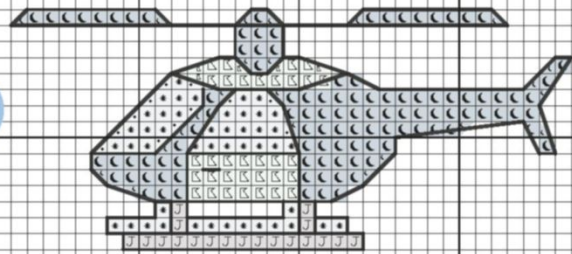
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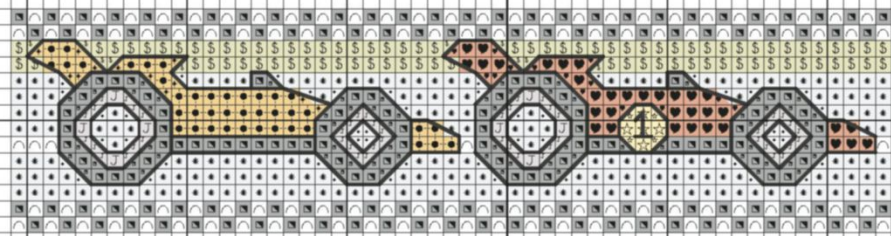
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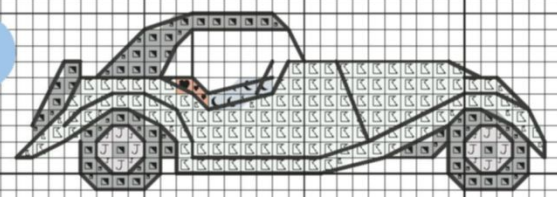
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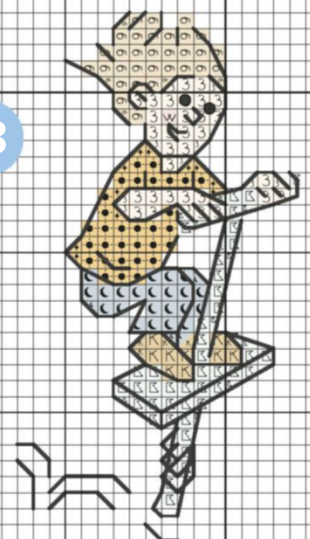
14



12



13



Transport key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|-------|--------|---------|------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| e | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
| J | 318 | 399 | 1801 | grey |
| K | 436 | 1045 | 2011 | tan |
| o | 437 | 362 | 2012 | light tan |
| ♥ | 666 | 46 | 210 | red |
| ☆ | 726 | 295 | 109 | yellow |
| ● | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| w | 761 | 1021 | 404 | pink |
| * | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| ⊞ | 775 | 1031 | 1001 | light blue |
| ☾ | 813 | 140 | 910 | blue |
| 3 | 948 | 892 | 306 | peach |
| \$ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | green |
| ■ | 3782 | 899 | 1911 | brown |
| ■ | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| — | 813 | 140 | 910 | blue |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

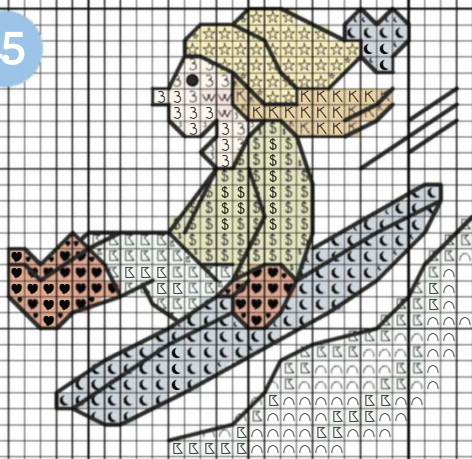
| | | | | |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|
| — | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|

✦ French knots in two strands

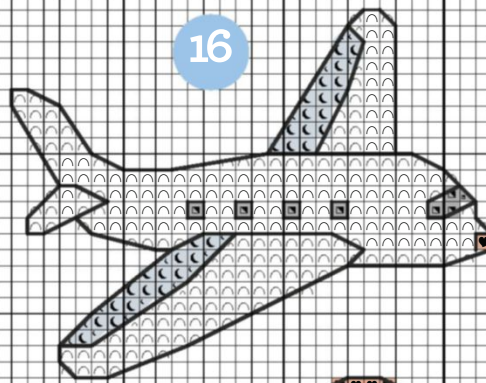
| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| ● | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

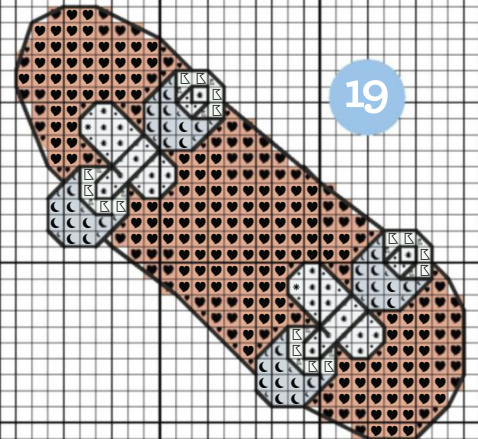
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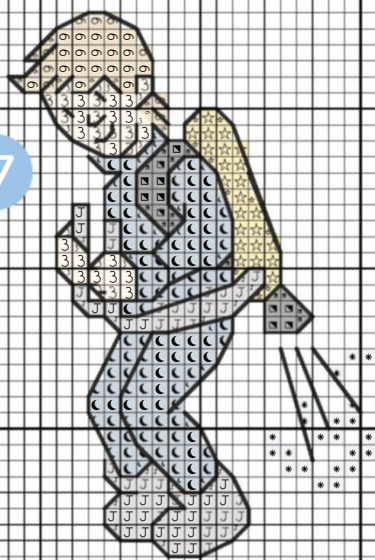
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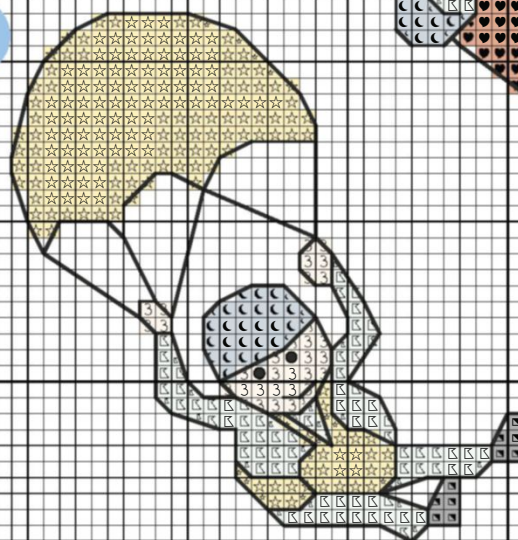
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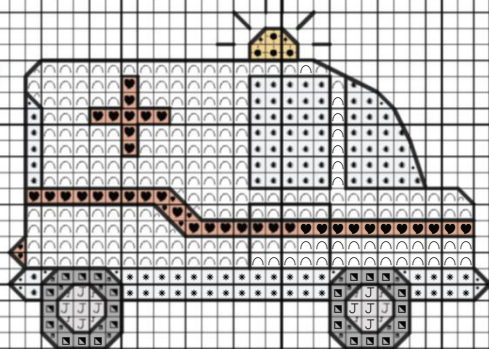
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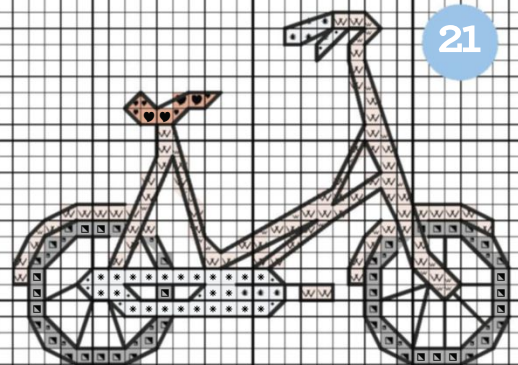
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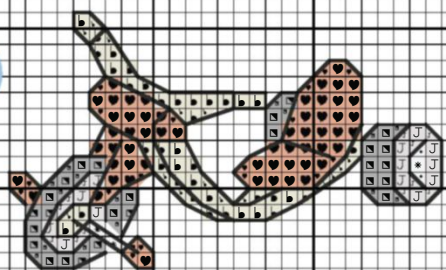
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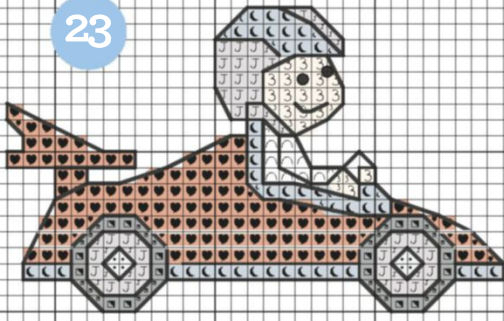


“ I love this collection – there really is something for everyone. My sister is a bit of a roller disco fan, so I’ll be making her a bag for her footwear and stitching the skates motif to decorate it with! ”

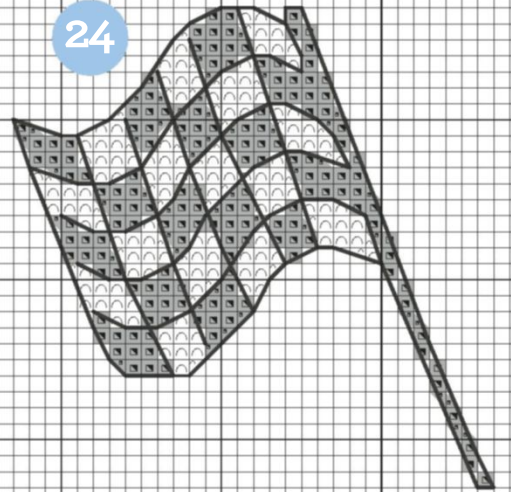
LEELA, DEPUTY ART EDITOR



23

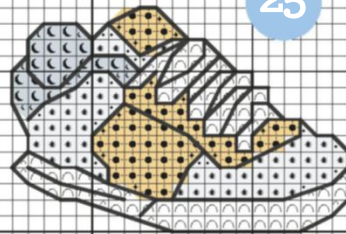


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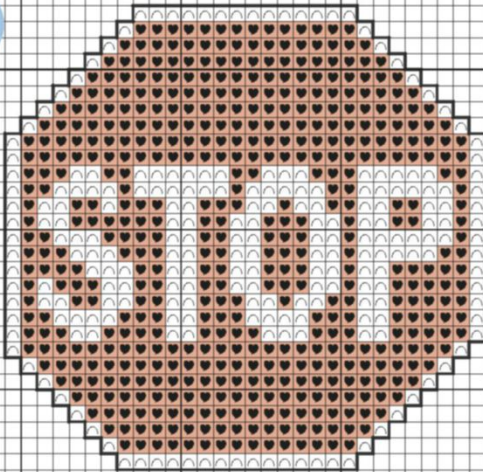


QUICK
STITCHY
GIFTS FOR
ACTIVE
PEOPLE

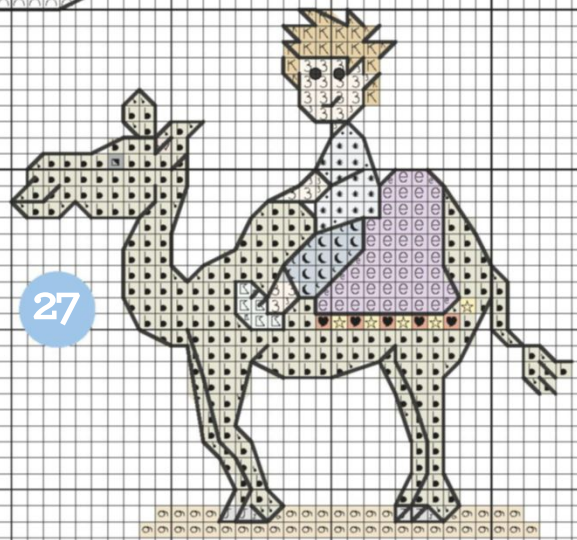
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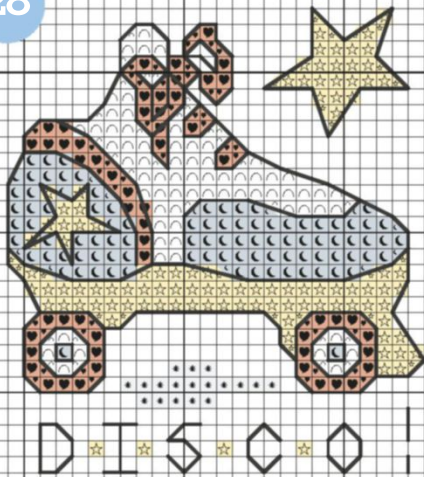
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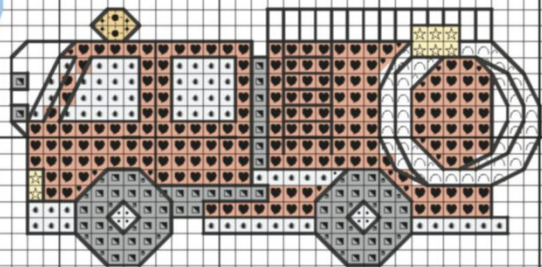
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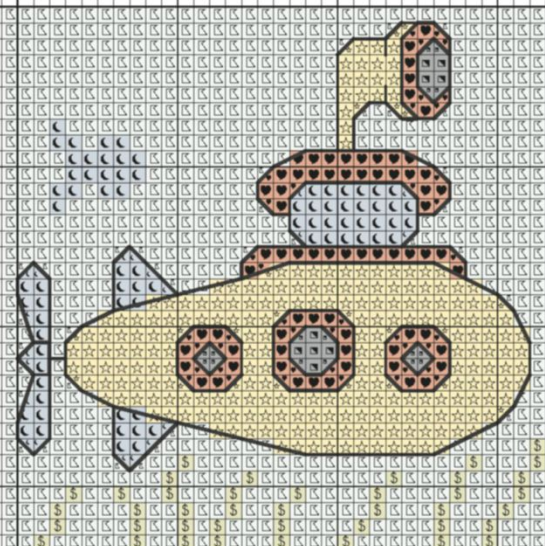
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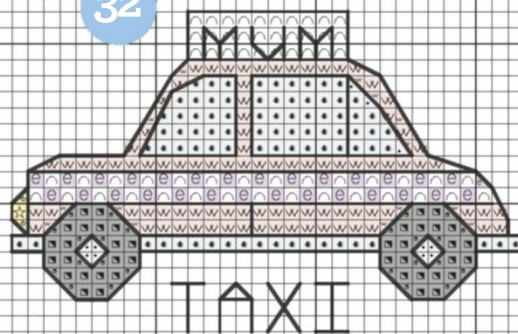
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abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

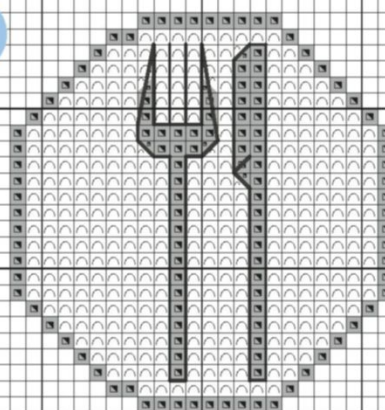
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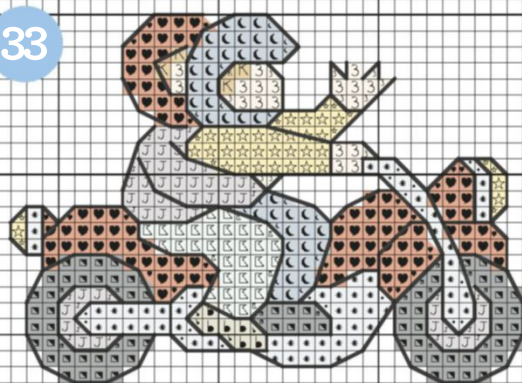
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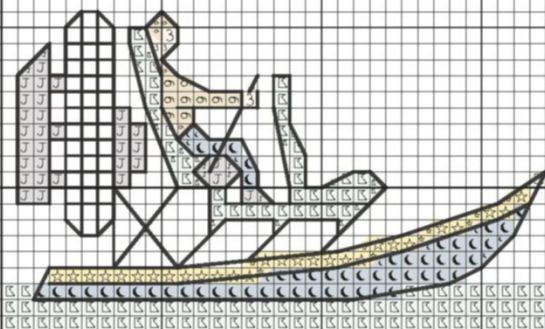
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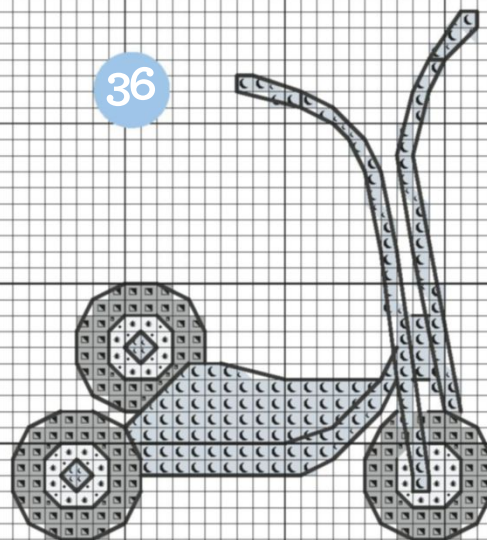
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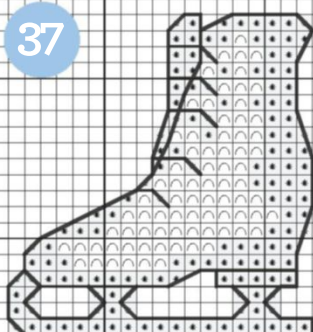
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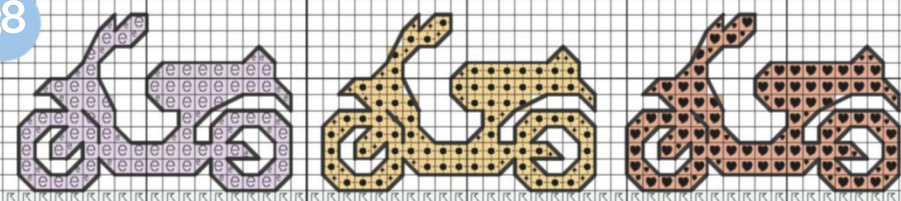
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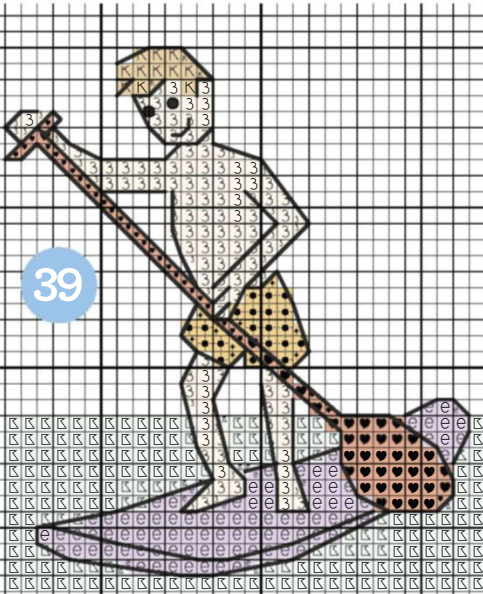


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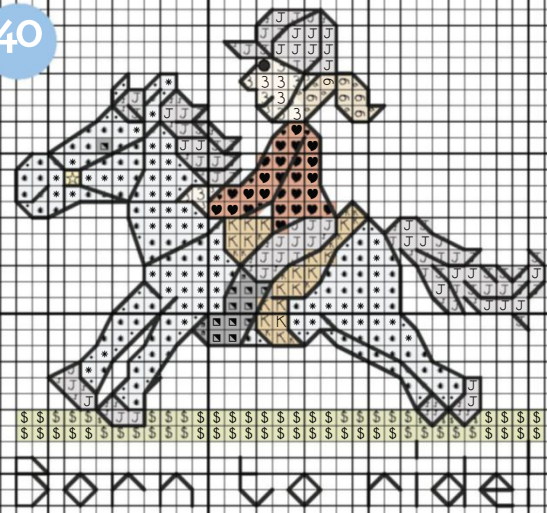


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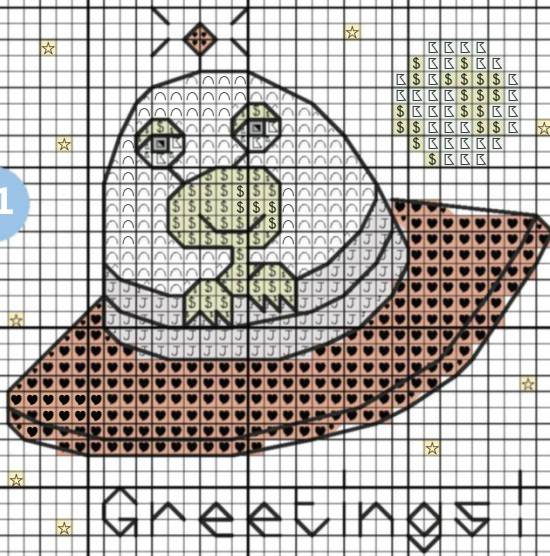




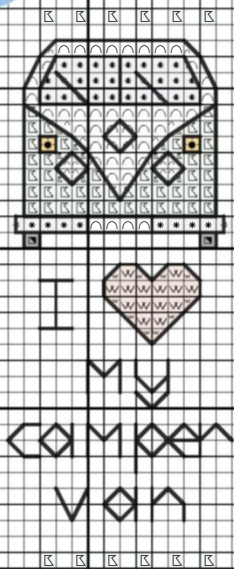
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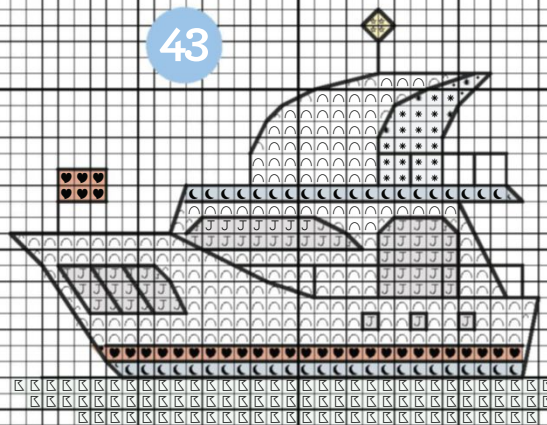
41



42



43



Chloe READER PANEL

“ I really like these transport-themed motifs – they’re so cute and effective! I’m planning on stitching them as birthday cards for a few of my friends’ children and for the children that I tutor. They’ll look great! ”

NEXT MONTH: GINGERBREAD!

From striped candy canes and iced hearts, to pretty rows of snow-clad houses and gurgling gingerbread babies, your next Design Library is a celebration of this edible Christmas favourite! Head to the shops on 6 September to pick up your copy of issue 273, or subscribe and get it delivered right to your door. Find this month's money-saving subscription offer on page 44.

Turn to page 44 to subscribe



DESIGNS BY **BECKY SPENCER**

Forest friends

These woodland dwellers and their fun messages are sure to put a smile on any loved one's face!



Cute critters and clever wordplay – what more could you want from a card? This set of designs combines classic British creatures with dinky autumnal motifs, making them perfect for the pun lover in your life, as well as those who have a fondness for foxes and think deer are delightful!

The backstitch is key to these designs, bringing out the character of the animals and the distinctive typography, so take your time with it. Each card should take around six hours to complete, so you could stitch the whole set in just a couple of weeks and have them ready for special occasions. The squirrel will be an ideal card for your partner, while the owl makes a great birthday card.

Factbox

Perfect cards for all ages

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 5-6 hours each
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Beginner/advanced beginner

The designs fit perfectly into landscape and portrait aperture cards, so they're quick and easy to make up. We've opted for a cream colour as a neutral background for the delicate autumnal colours, and then added a pretty finishing touch with a strip of olive ribbon. ➤



Meet the designer

Becky Spencer

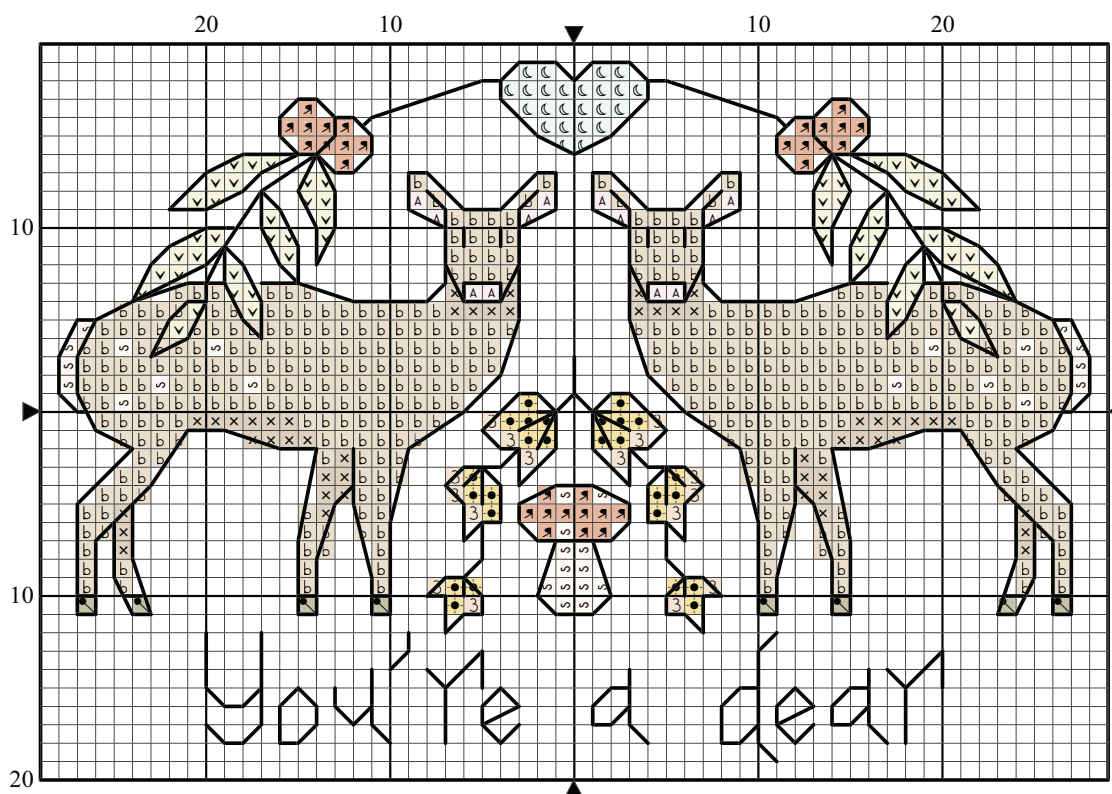
“Animals are one of my favourite things to design, and I had such fun coming up with these sweet characters. I also loved choosing the greetings to go with them, as I'm a huge fan of puns!”



GREAT
SEASONAL
DESIGNS



∞
You won't be able to resist the allure of stitching these adorable autumnal animals!
∞

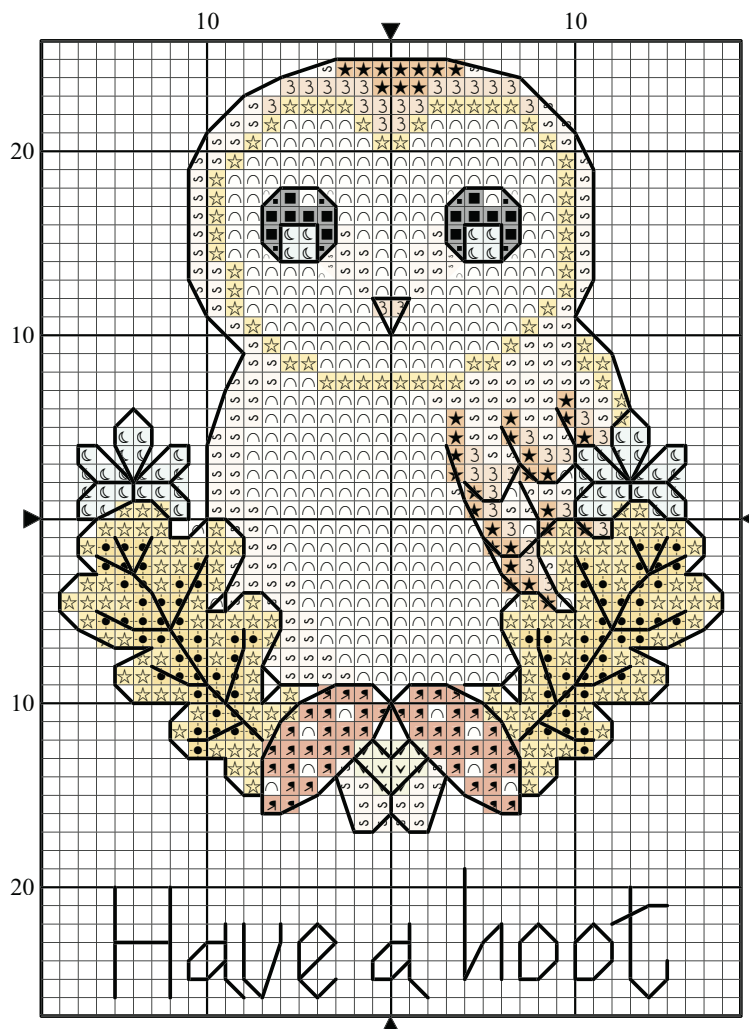


Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 18x12cm (7x4¾in) for each design
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Craft Creations* oblong aperture cards (AP08U) in pale cream (12)
- ✕ Ribbon of your choice from local stores

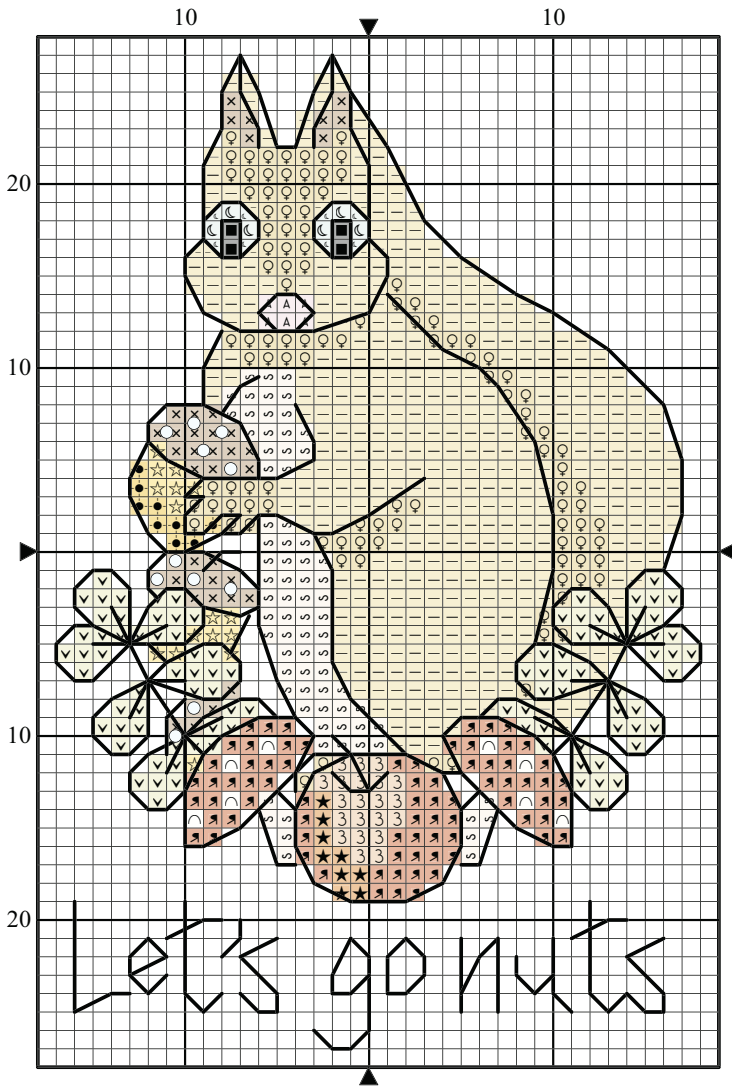
Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £20

*For stockists see page 90



TOP TIP

Swap to a sharper needle when you're doing the backstitch, to help you pierce the aida blocks



Woodland Cards key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|---------------|
| ∞ | ecru | 926 | 2404 | cream |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ■ | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| ■ | 645 | 273 | 1811 | grey |
| ○ | 676 | 891 | 2208 | sand |
| — | 677 | 886 | 2207 | light sand |
| ★ | 721 | 324 | 308 | orange |
| ● | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| ☾ | 747 | 158 | 1104 | blue |
| ∨ | 772 | 259 | 1604 | green |
| A | 818 | 23 | 502 | pink |
| × | 841 | 1082 | 1911 | brown |
| b | 842 | 1080 | 1910 | light brown |
| ☆ | 3822 | 295 | 2511 | straw |
| 3 | 3825 | 336 | 302 | peach |
| ∩ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | natural white |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|---|------|---------------|
| ○ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | natural white |
|---|------|---|------|---------------|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 53 high x 58 wide

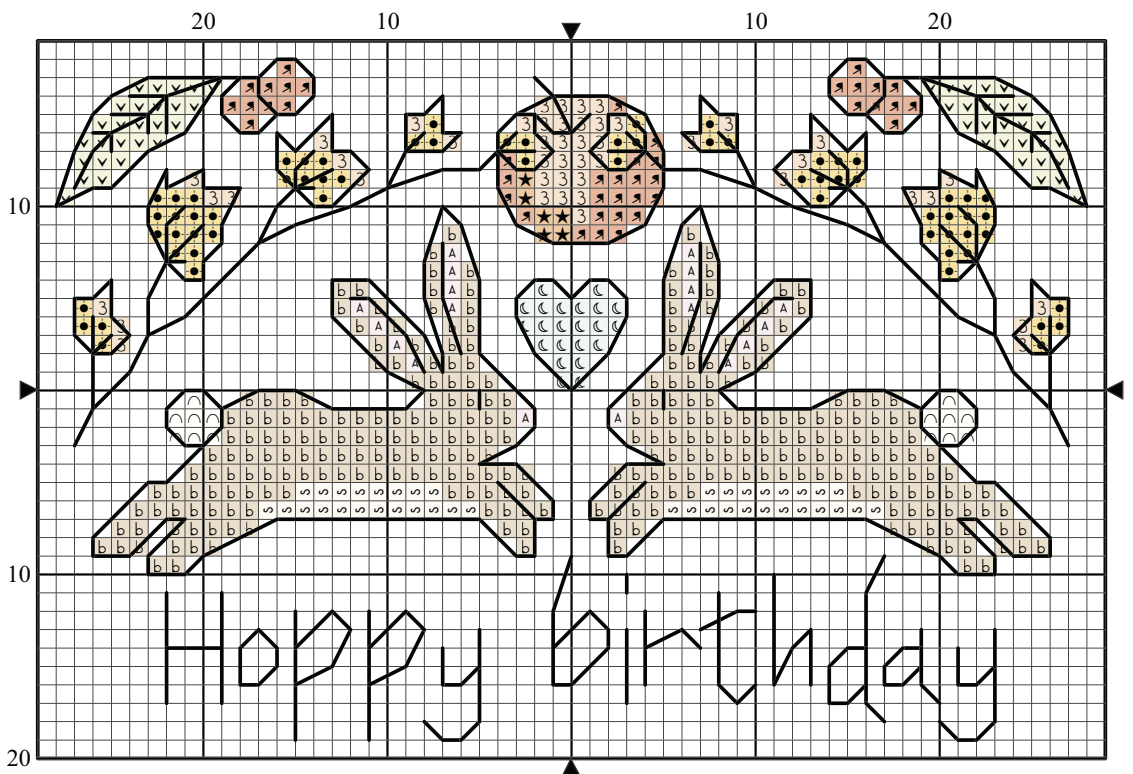
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 9.5x10.5cm (3¾x4¼in)

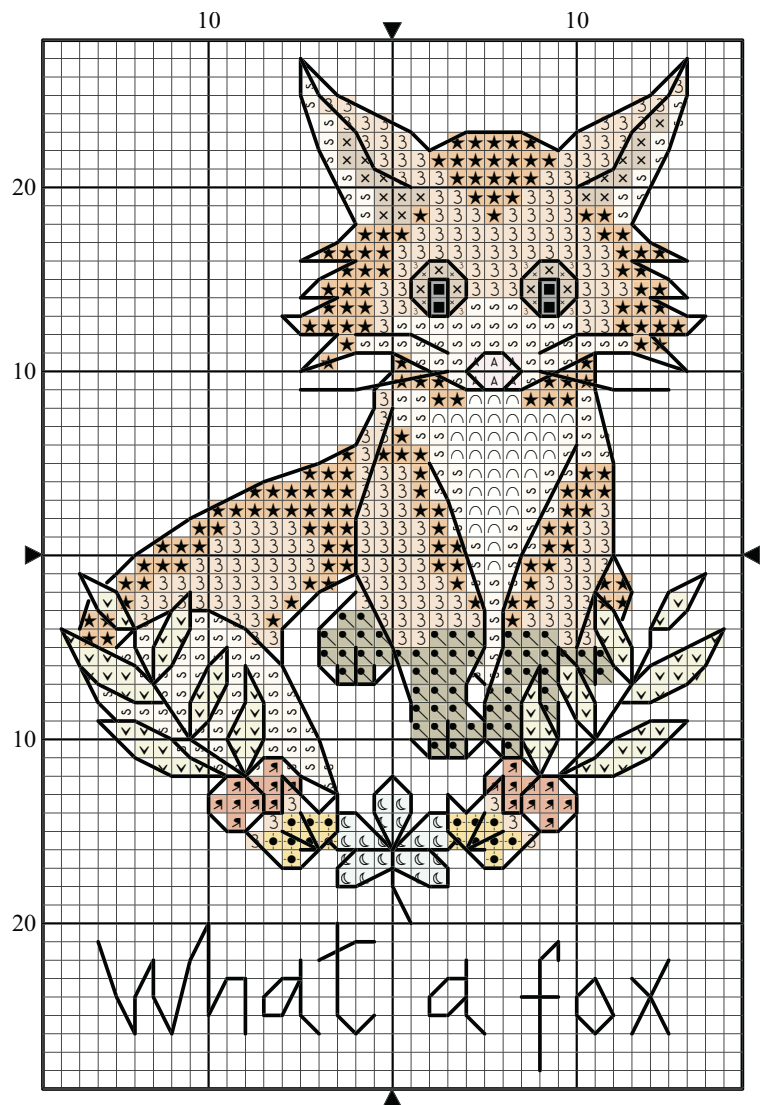
These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Cassie
READER PANEL



“ I love aperture cards as they’re the perfect size to send in the mail, but they can be easily slipped into a frame to be enjoyed for many years to come. I’m going to send one of these to my mom for a nice autumn greeting to let her know I’m thinking of her. ”

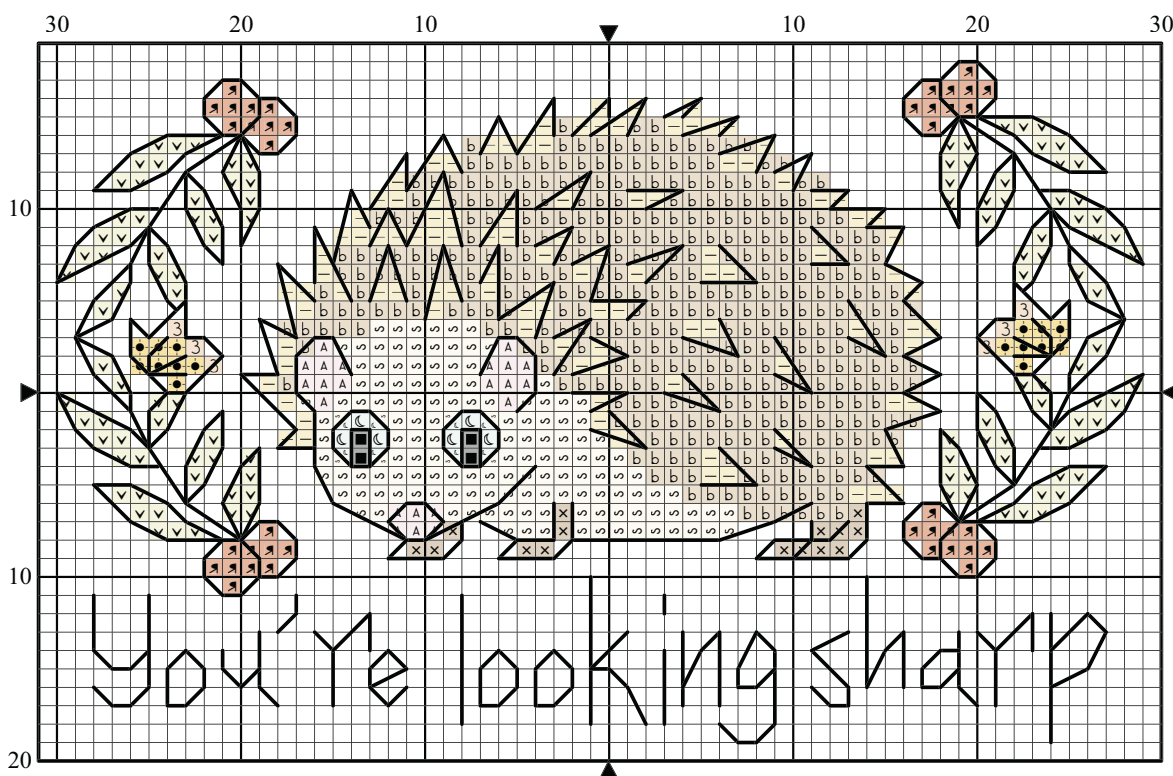




How to...

mount an aperture card

- 1. Measure your card aperture** and then cut out your stitching slightly larger than the aperture window, with a minimum 1cm (½in) border.
- 2. Attach strips of double-sided tape** around the aperture on the reverse side of the card, as close to the edges as possible.
- 3. Lay your stitching face-up** and position the card above, with the aperture framing the design. Move the card around until you are happy with the way it frames the design, then fix into position.
- 4. Attach more strips of double-sided tape** to the left-hand flap of the card, insert a piece of white paper behind the aida, and then fold over the flap to conceal the back of the stitching.



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DESIGNS BY **JENNY VAN DE WIELE**

A class of their own

Striking and elegant, these floral monograms are the perfect partner to any special occasion

Some events are so momentous that they deserve something truly exceptional with which to celebrate them, and Jenny van de Wiele's opulent monogram crest ABC really fits the bill.

As well as being easy to stitch, these designs are wonderfully versatile. You can omit the crest from your stitch for a more informal feel – perhaps for a birthday or congratulations card. There's also the option of including a date preceded by the traditional 'EST' (established); perfect if you're marking a specific date such as a wedding or birth.

The spray of flowers in which the crest or letter nestles adds a welcome splash of colour, bringing an autumnal

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 1-6 hours each
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, backstitch
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Beginner

Perfect for beginners

twist to the finished piece, but you could easily use a different palette to customise your blooms. Maybe you prefer a springtime theme, want to use the recipient's favourite colours or echo the shade of the nursery wall on which your gift is to hang. Whichever option you choose, this distinctive ABC is sure to make a statement. ➤



Meet the designer

Jenny van de Wiele

“These designs are among my favourites. It was great to be able to come up with a slightly different spin on the usual alphabet set. They're so adaptable, too – you can get three designs out of one ABC!”

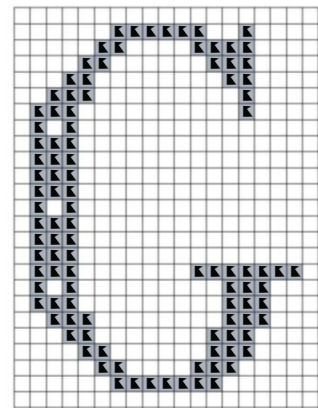
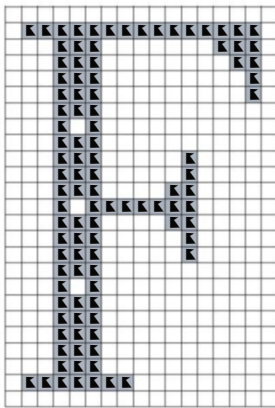
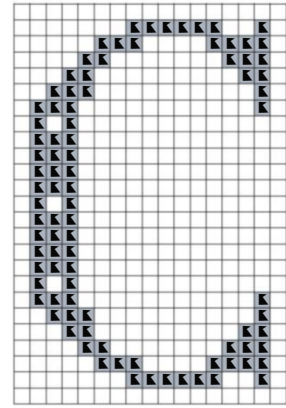
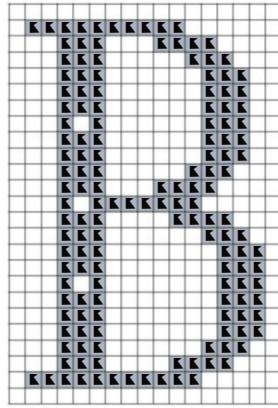
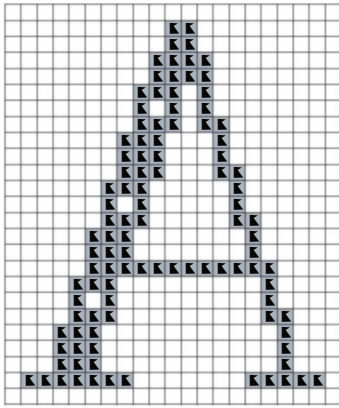


EASY-TO-STITCH
DESIGNS



Birthday, wedding, new home or new baby - these versatile designs will fit the bill every time!

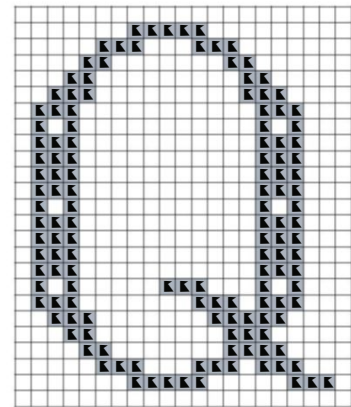
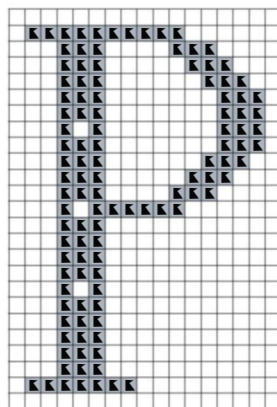
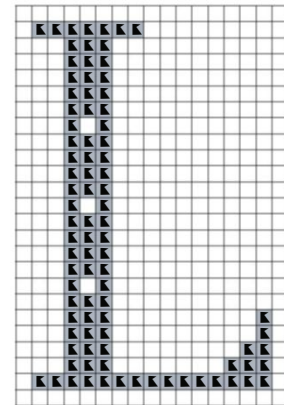
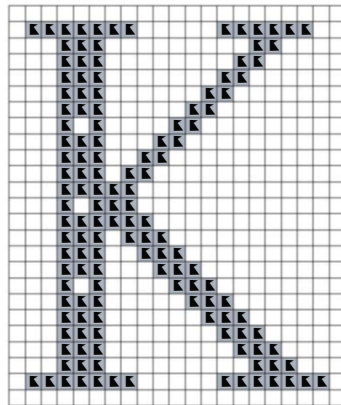


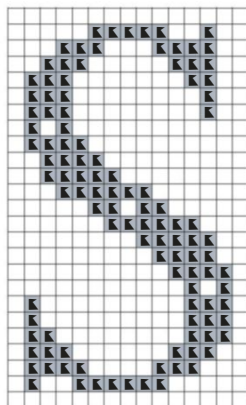
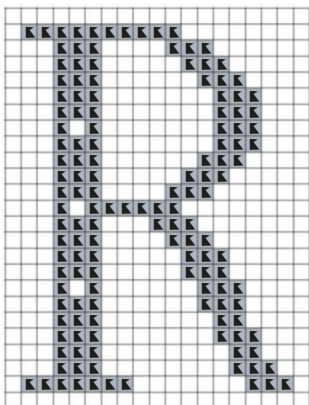
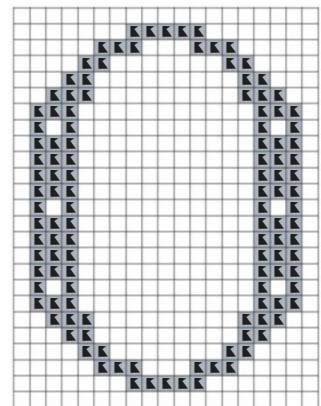
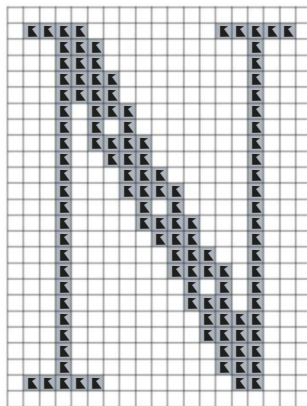
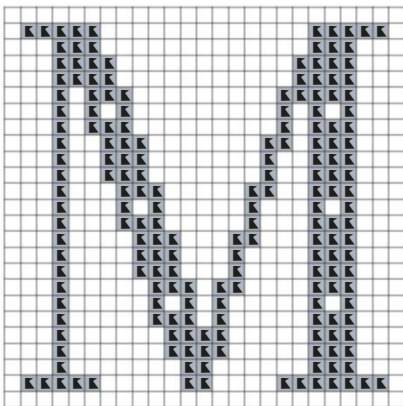
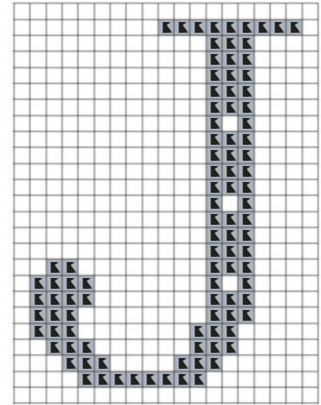
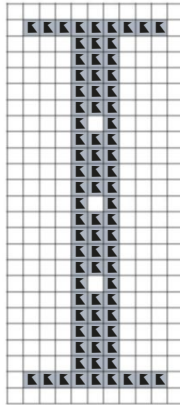
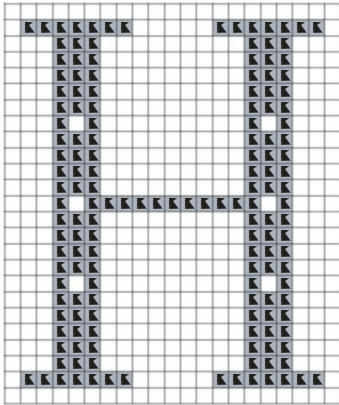
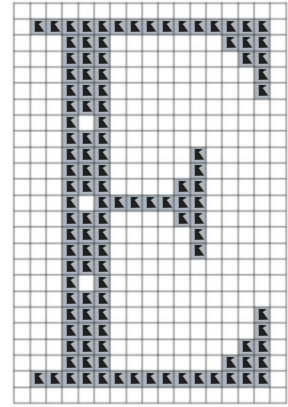
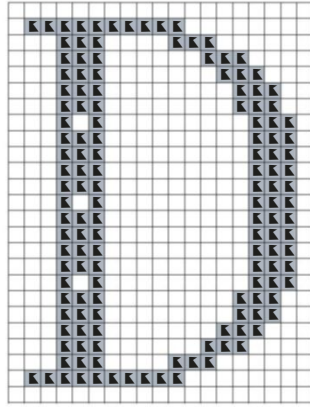


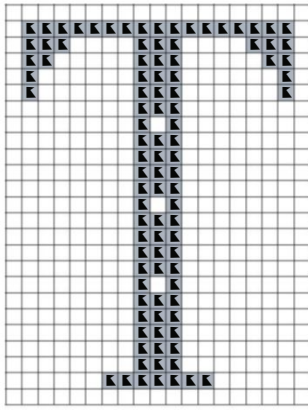
Rebecca
READER PANEL



“These monogram motifs are great quick stitches for any occasion cards and many personalised pieces. I have plenty of birthdays coming up soon, and these ABCs will be great to stitch and send to friends and family.”

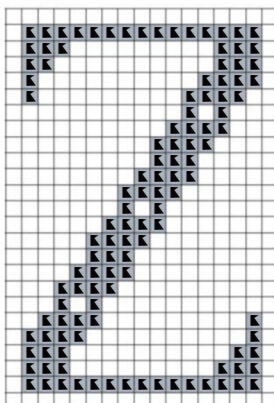
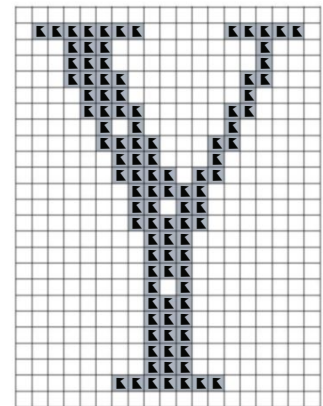
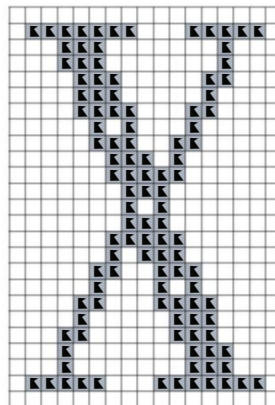
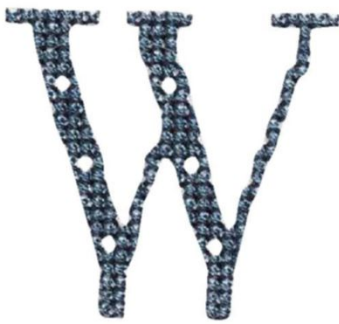
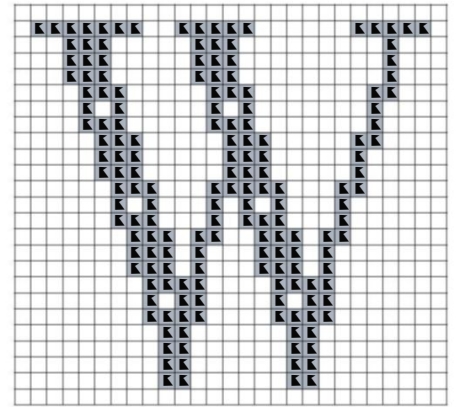
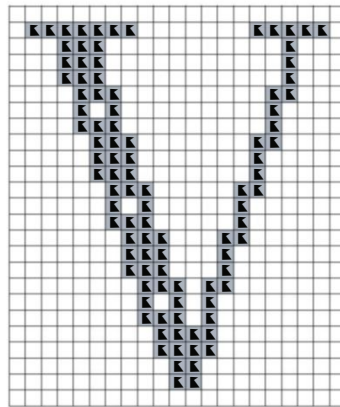
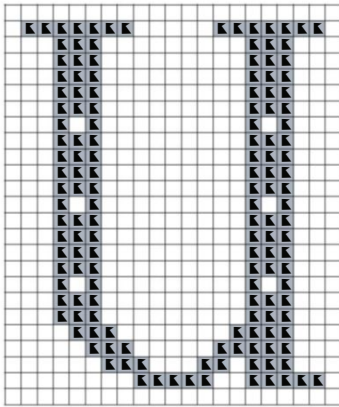


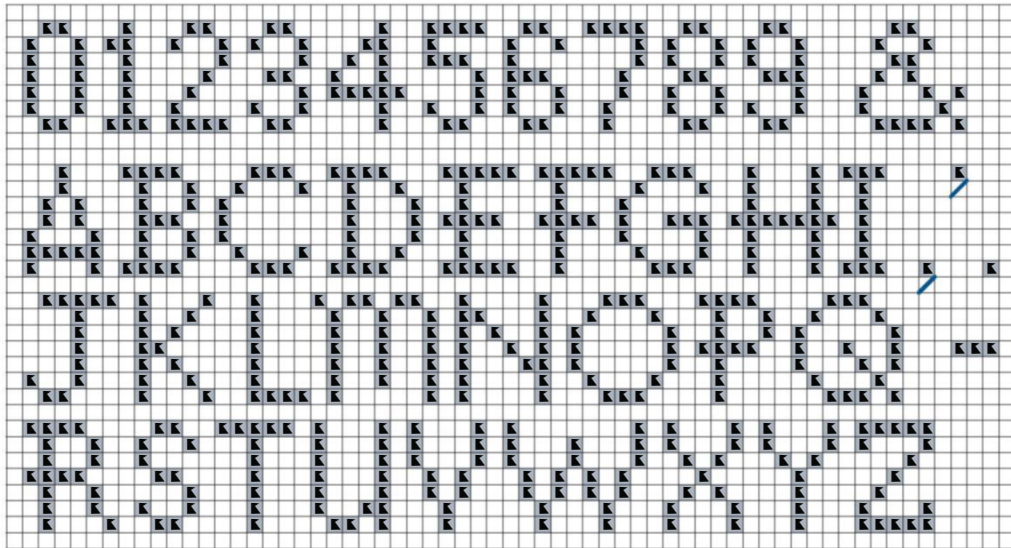




How to... make a tag

- 1 Trim your finished** piece of stitching, leaving a border of two aida blocks.
- 2 Take some tweezers** and carefully fray the edges to make a fringe.
- 3 Attach a slightly** smaller piece of white paper to the back of your aida with acid-free double-sided tape, then patch it onto your chosen gift tag. Finish with a ribbon of choice.



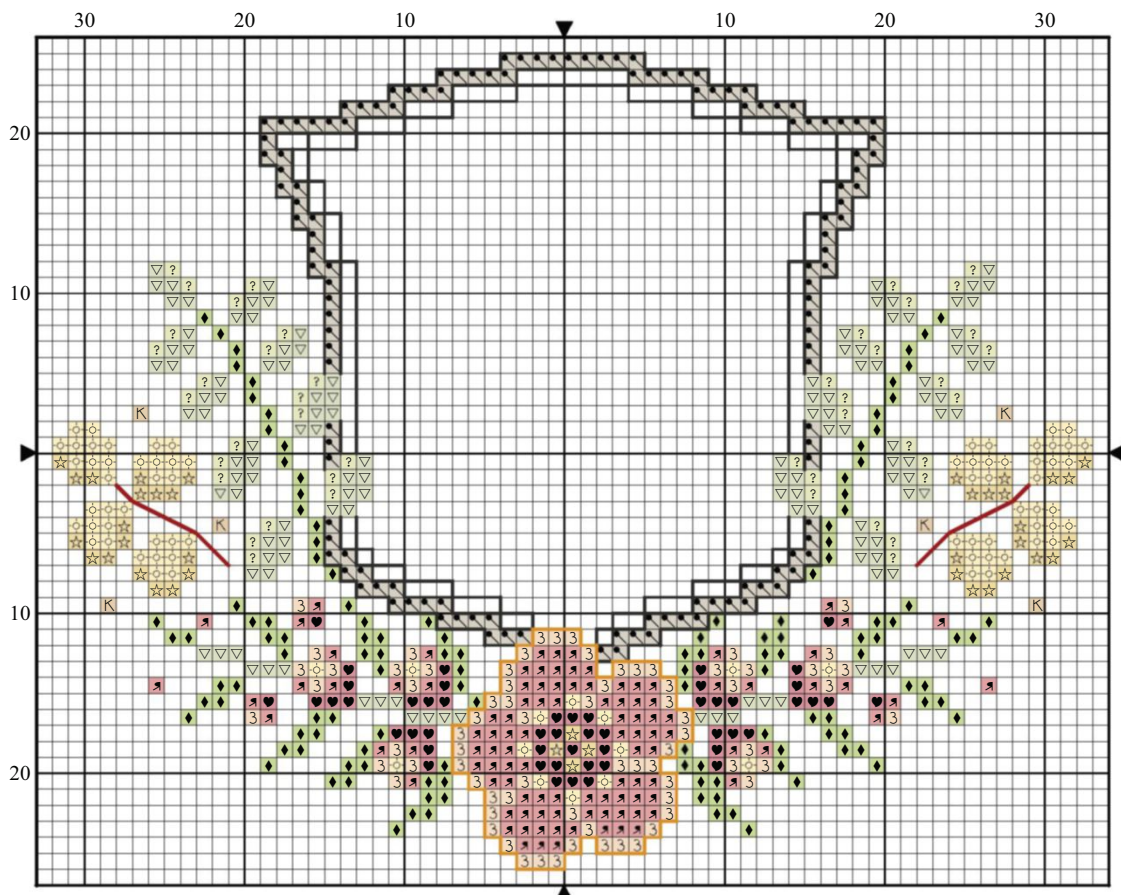


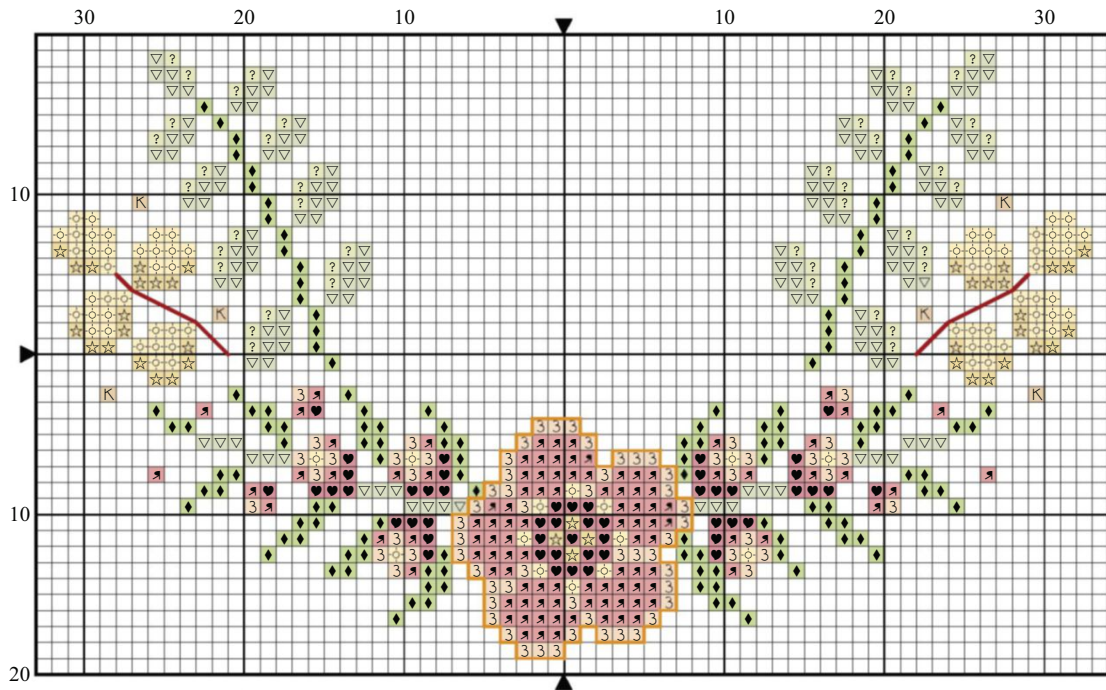
“I think these letters are really elegant. I’m going to several weddings over the next few months and they’ll make great cards or personal gifts for the happy couples. I’d better get stitching!”



HANNAH, DEPUTY EDITOR

TOP TIP
Get creative with your thread colours and choose shades for the flowers that are special to the person you’re stitching it for





TOP TIP
 Stitch individual letters
 or flowers from
 this design to create
 elegant personalised
 gift tags

Monogram Crest ABC key

✘ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|--|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| | 646 | 8581 | 1812 | grey |
| | 744 | 301 | 112 | yellow |
| | 782 | 308 | 2212 | tan |
| | 815 | 44 | 513 | dark red |
| | 904 | 258 | 1413 | green |
| | 930 | 1035 | 1712 | blue |
| | 989 | 241 | 1401 | forest green |
| | 3341 | 328 | 403 | peach |
| | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | grass green |
| | 3801 | 1098 | 411 | red |
| | 3820 | 306 | 2509 | straw |

✘ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|-------|
| | 646 | 8581 | 1812 | grey |
| | 930 | 1035 | 1712 | blue |
| | 3341 | 328 | 403 | peach |

✘ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|-----|
| | 782 | 308 | 2212 | tan |
|--|-----|-----|------|-----|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 51 high x 65 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 9.5x12cm (3¾x4¾in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Shopping list

- ✘ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 25x25cm (9¾x9¾in) for the full crest, 20x17cm (7¾x6¾in) for the floral border, or 10x10cm (4x4in) for individual letters
- ✘ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✘ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✘ Craft Creations* oval aperture card (AP01U) in textura recycled bright white (61)
- ✘ Cardstock and ribbons of your choice from local stores
- ✘ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 13.5x13.5cm (5¼x5¼in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £14

*For stockists see page 90

And so to bed...

This talented stitcher came up with a clever way to display her finished projects – a bedspread!

When Irene Cain started stitching, she enjoyed mounting her work and hanging it up. After a few years, however, her love of cross stitch meant that her walls were rapidly filling up and she needed a new way to make up her designs. "There's only so much wall space that anyone can have!" laughs Irene. Inspiration struck, and she had the clever idea of using her designs to make a bedspread.

Irene, who is 88 years old and lives near Halifax, Yorkshire, began stitching after her children had grown up and left home. "I was out of work, so with time on my hands I thought I would give it a go," she explains. "Sewing, knitting and crocheting had always come easily to me, so it seemed a natural progression to try a more detailed form of sewing." She joined her local stitching group, "to gain confidence and share the ups and downs of learning such a delicate art." Irene's love of stitching flourished, and she started working on projects, of

"There's only so much wall space that anyone can have!"

which her stunning bedspread is by far the most complex!

The bedspread has over 70 motifs, all stitched on aida, ranging from simple flowers and Celtic patterns to detailed landscape scenes. The 12 signs of the zodiac decorate one long side panel, while a pretty alphabet frames the other long side. Horses are a dominant theme, from a winged Pegasus to working shires and prancing carriage horses.

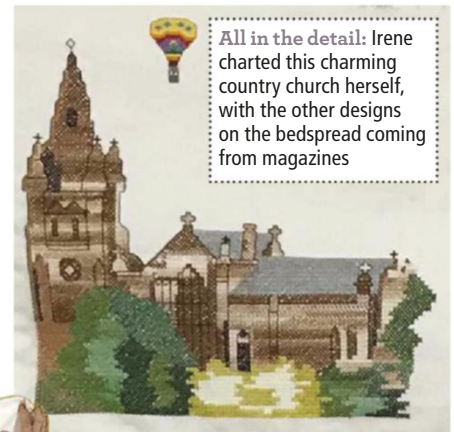
All the designs came from charts in magazines that Irene bought, with the exception of the church that's at the top of the design, which this

talented stitcher charted herself from a photo. "I saw a picture of it in a magazine, and then when I was on a bus ride to Bury, I passed it!" says Irene. "What are the odds of that! So I decided that I had to stitch it." Irene also added her name, ensuring that future generations know who was responsible for this fabric work of art!

It took Irene five years to complete her bedspread, including the time it took to delicately piece and sew together all the cross stitched panels, ensuring they all worked together as a whole. The finished item has pride of place on her bed.

Irene is still busy stitching away. "I stitch daily for around five hours – after that my eyes and hands are ready for a well-earned rest!" Her current WIP is a Little Dove design, which will be a Christmas present for her niece, a fellow stitcher who is incredibly proud of her aunt's work.

While she liked the challenge of creating such a large-scale, unique project, Irene has no plans to start another one of that size, and instead is focusing on smaller designs. "I would love to think that I have the time and patience to complete a similar project, but I would rather go out on a completed one than one half done," she explains. "I've thoroughly enjoyed designing my bedspread, and I'm very proud of it." We would be too, Irene – what a great way to 'spread' your love of cross stitching! ✘



All in the detail: Irene charted this charming country church herself, with the other designs on the bedspread coming from magazines



Pretty and practical: The bedspread is used daily by Irene, making it a useful item as well as a beautiful example of stitching



DESIGNS BY **RHONA NORRIE**

Haunted house

Decorate your Halloween party with this magnificent collection of spooky stitches!



We love the fact that Halloween gives us another excuse to have fun with our stitching, and these cute decorations by Rhona are the ideal stichy treat for 31 October!

All of the designs are stitched on plastic canvas, which makes them very easy to turn into decorations – when you’ve finished, simply cut out your design, leaving a one-square border.

There’s also a very cool secret to these designs – they’ll glow in the dark! Perfect for this time of year, DMC’s glow-in-the-dark thread is part of its Light Effects range, and while it looks white when you stitch, it soon reveals its special trick once the lights go out. All you need to do is make

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 3-25 hours each
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, backstitch
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Beginner/advanced beginner

Glow-in-the-dark thread!

sure the stitching has been held under a light for a few minutes.

Whether you’re going all-out this year for Halloween and want to stitch the whole set for a party, or make just the sign to hang in your window to welcome trick or treaters, we know that you’ll love these fun designs – they’re simply spooktacular! ➤



Meet the designer

Rhona Norrie

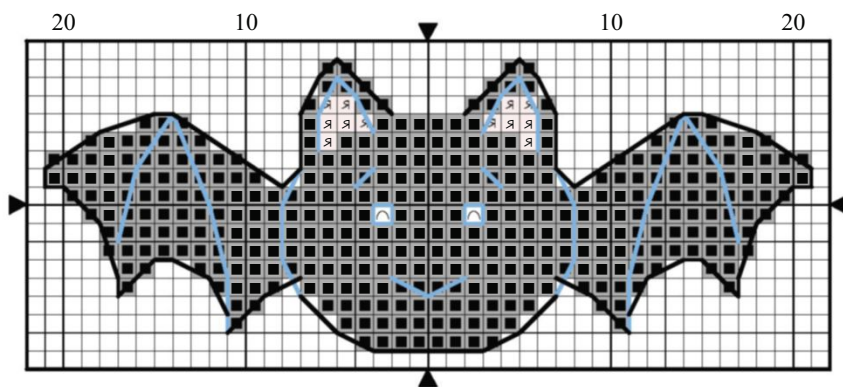
“I live in the USA where Halloween is a big occasion, so it’s fun to spread some of that excitement via stitches over to the UK, too! And how clever is this luminous thread? I want to use it in all my projects now!”

STITCH
ON PLASTIC
CANVAS

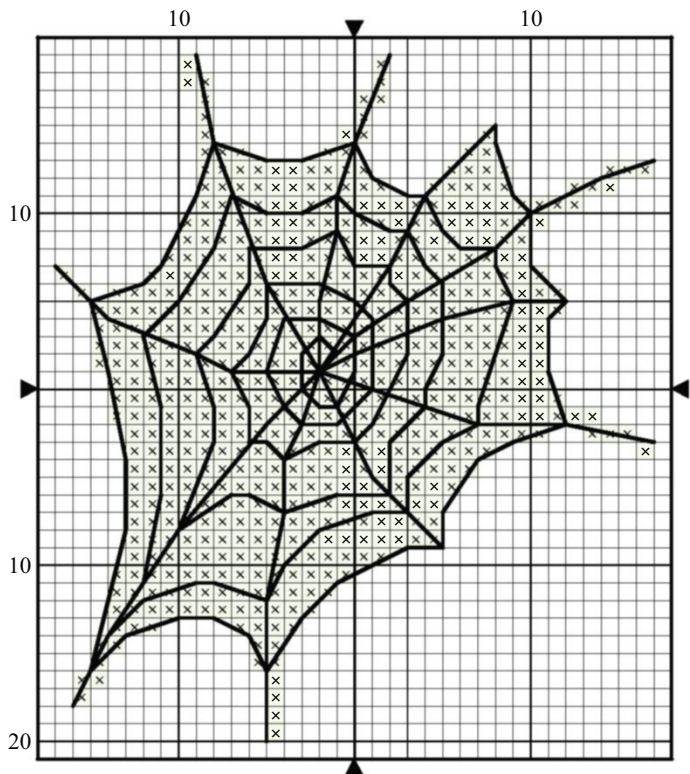
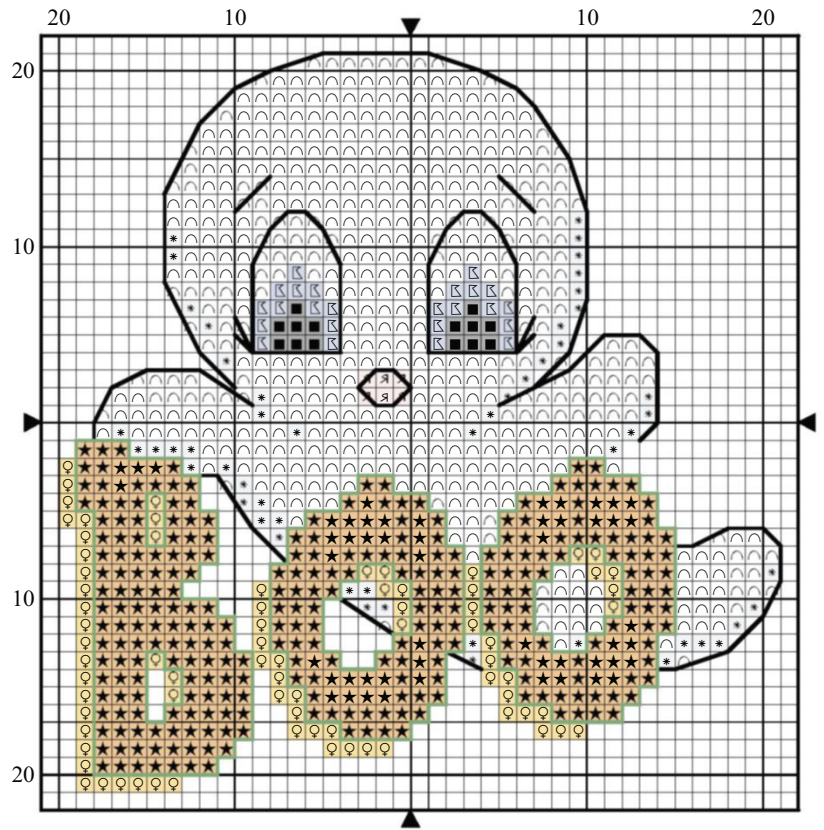
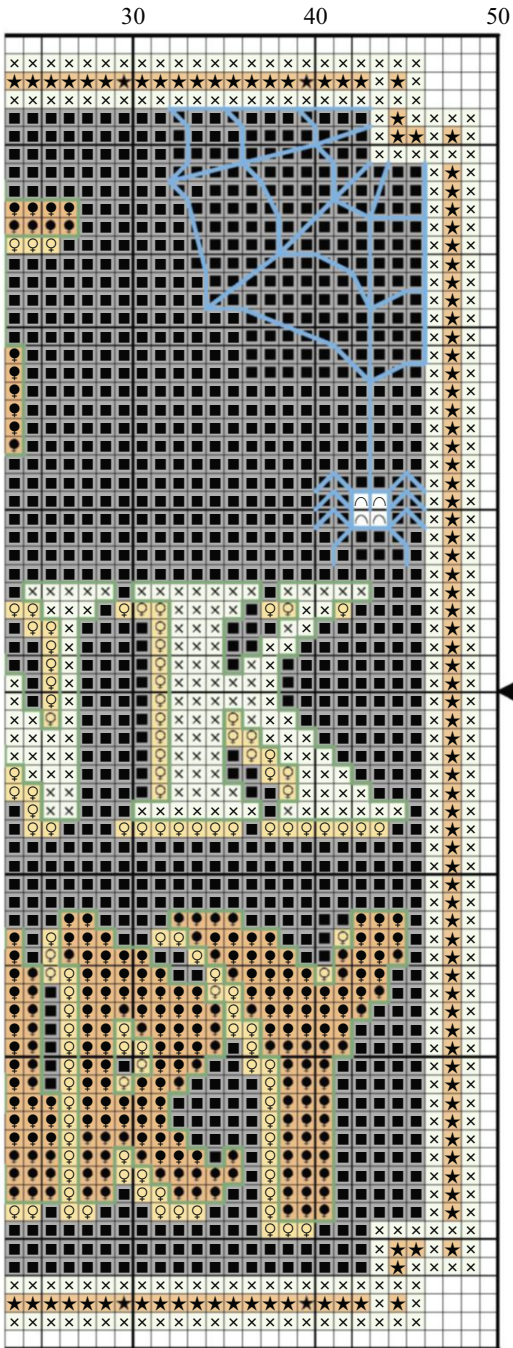


∞
Ghosts, witches, bats
and spiders' webs –
this party decoration
set has all the spooky
elements you need
for Halloween!





TOP TIP
 Use the loop method for starting stitches with plastic canvas, as it makes it easier to secure your thread neatly



Chloe READER PANEL



“ These Halloween designs are so cute, and as these are small pieces they’ll make a quick project that I’ll definitely enjoy stitching! The children I tutor will love them and they’ll make great cards, too. ”



Halloween Party Set key

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------|
| ○ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ■ | 317 | 400 | 1714 | grey |
| ● | 740 | 316 | 204 | orange |
| ★ | 741 | 304 | 202 | tangerine |
| ○ | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| * | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| □ | 799 | 145 | 910 | blue |
| я | 3713 | 1020 | 502 | pink |

✂ Cross stitch in two strands DMC Light Effects

| | | | | |
|---|------|--|--|------------------|
| × | E940 | | | glow-in-the-dark |
|---|------|--|--|------------------|

✂ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|
| — | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |

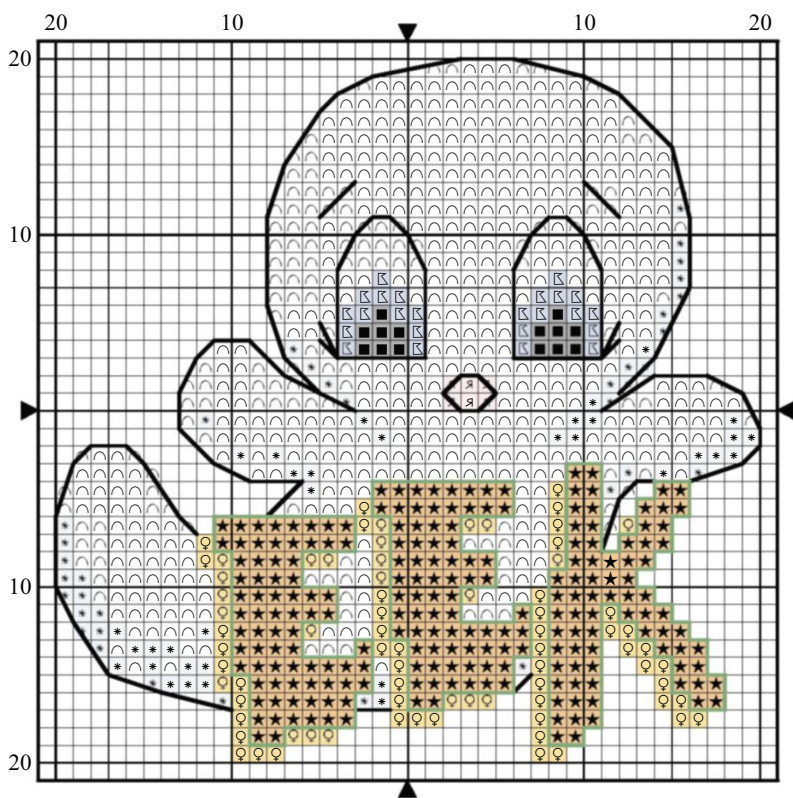
✂ Backstitch in one strand DMC Light Effects

| | | | | |
|---|------|--|--|------------------|
| — | E940 | | | glow-in-the-dark |
|---|------|--|--|------------------|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 70 high x 98 wide

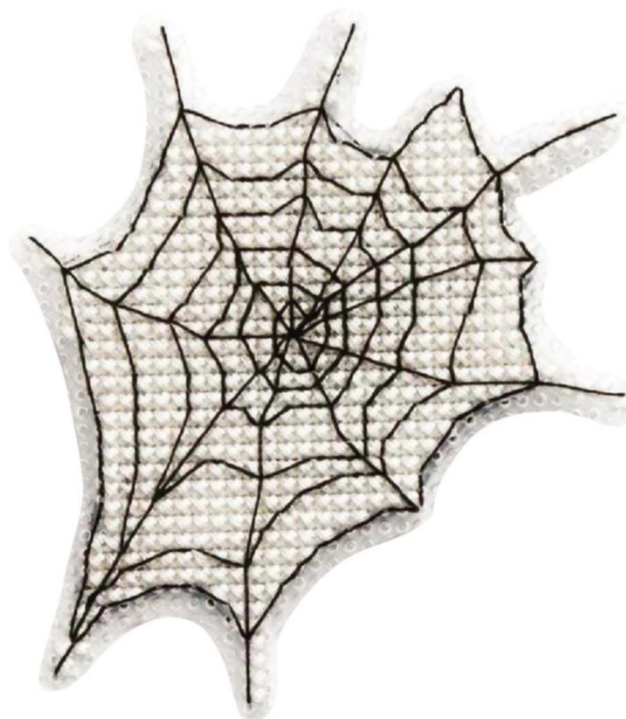
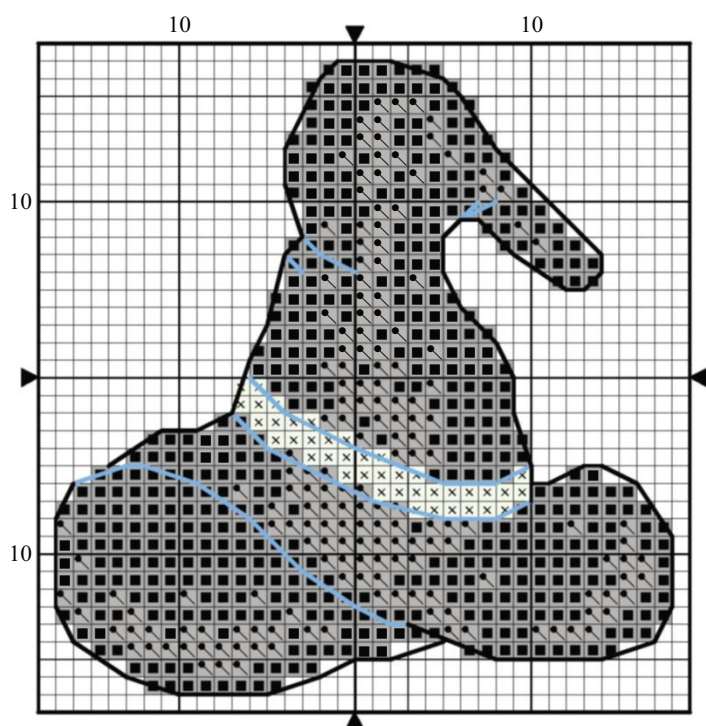
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 12.5x18cm (5x7in)

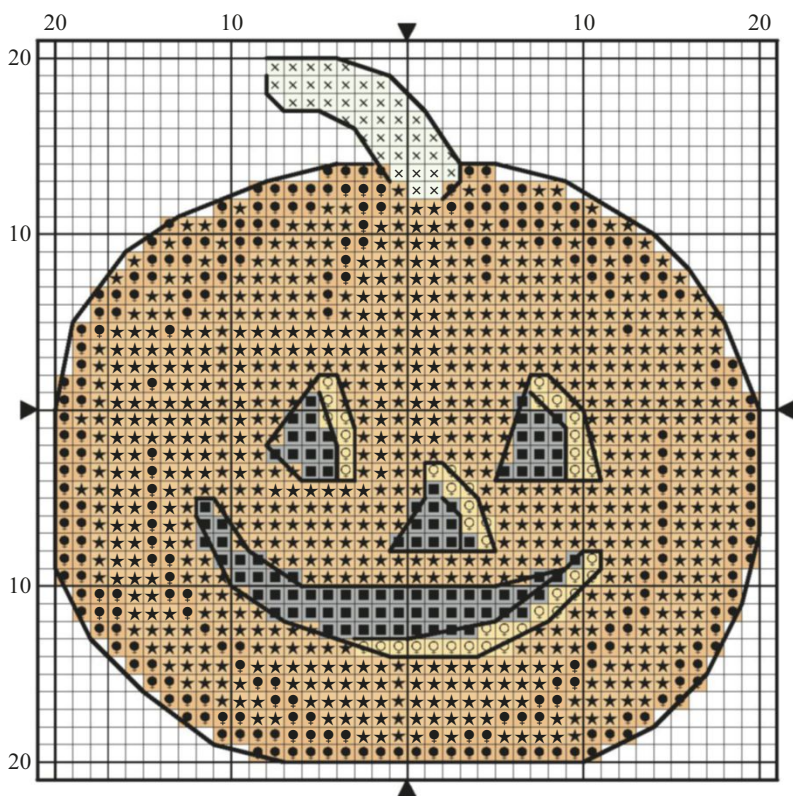
These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton and DMC Light Effects



How to... use glow-in-the-dark thread

For the best results and to prevent fraying, work with a shorter length of Light Effects thread, no more than 30cm (12in). If the thread becomes twisted while stitching, drop your needle and let it unwind. To make your project glow, expose it to light for a few minutes, then watch it gleam in the dark!





Shopping list

- ✕ 14-count clear plastic canvas from Lakeside Needlecrafts* measuring 18x22cm (7x8½in) for the sign and a maximum of 12x12cm (4¾x4¾in) for each other design
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Ribbon, paper sweet bags, round lollipop sticks and pipe cleaner spider of your choice from local stores or handmade

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £15

*For stockists see page 90

Pet of the month

We know you're huge fans of pets, so have us design a cross stitch of a beloved animal!



Design my pet!

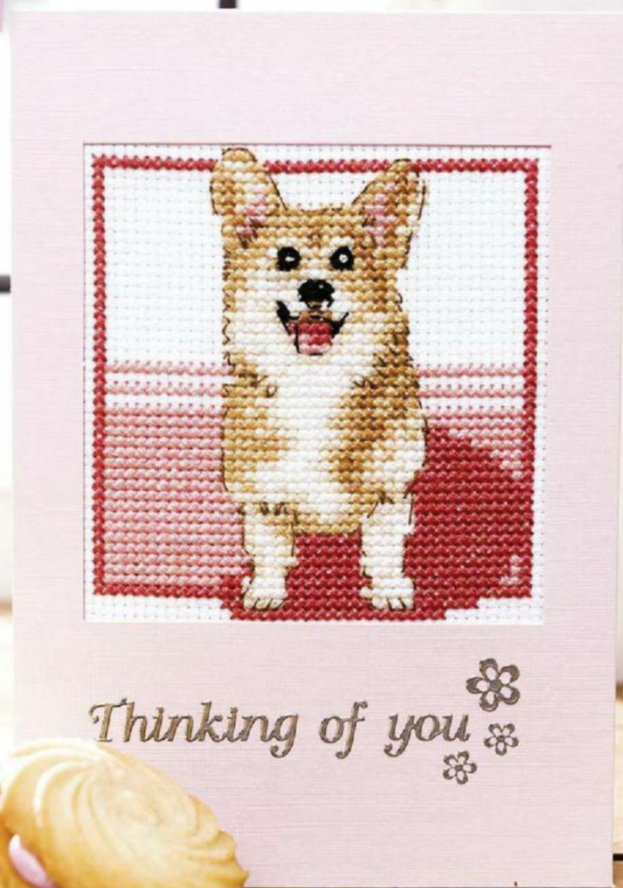
Q My friend has lost her beloved Corgi. I would like to send her a sympathy card with a Corgi on it for remembrance, so would you be able to chart me one? Thanks Durene.

Melodie Powell, via email

A Durene says: Thanks for your request, Melodie, and I'm sorry to hear about your friend's Corgi. I'm sure she'll appreciate your thoughtfulness in stitching her a commemorative card.

Corgis are known to be very intelligent and playful dogs, and I've tried to capture that in my chart. I've used a pink background for this little cutie, to pick up on the colour I've used for the ears and the mouth. The design is very adaptable, however, so you could always choose two complementary shades of another colour from your stash.

This hue has then been continued in the making up, too, using a pink square aperture card. As you're sending it as a sympathy card, we've also added a foiled sentiment. The size and shape means that the design would also fit a coaster, so you could stitch it again so your friend can have another reminder of her beloved pet.



Fun facts about Corgis

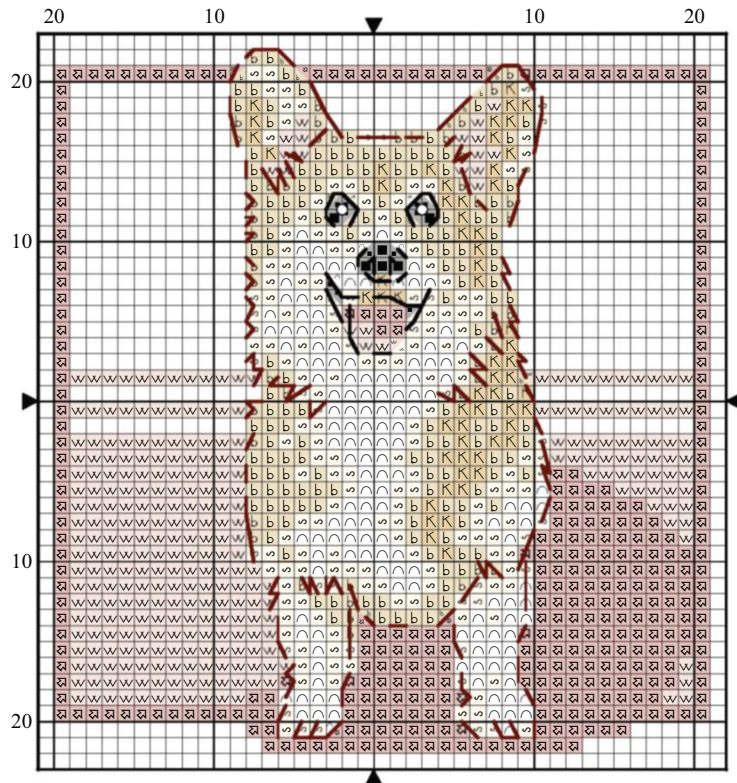
- **This breed of dog was originally** used for herding sheep and cattle.
- **Although they look different,** Corgis are closely related to Huskies!
- **Corgis originated in Wales,** and their name is Welsh, too – 'gi' means dog, although opinion is divided over whether 'Cor' comes from the Welsh word for 'dwarf' or to 'watch over'.
- **There are two types** of Corgi, the Cardigan and the Pembroke. The Queen has had over 30 Pembrokes!

Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 15x15cm (6x6in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Craft Creations* square aperture card (AP10U) in creative linen pale pink (178) and Thinking of You peel-off stickers (XL435U) in silver (02)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £11

*For stockists see page 90



TOP TIP
Stitch the paler shades of your design last of all, so that these lighter coloured threads don't get too grubby

Stitch over a weekend

- Factbox**
- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 6 hours
 - ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
 - ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Advanced beginner

Corgi key

✦ **Cross stitch in two strands**

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|-----------|
| ○ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| K | 436 | 1045 | 2011 | tan |
| s | 712 | 926 | 2101 | cream |
| b | 738 | 367 | 2013 | light tan |
| w | 761 | 1021 | 404 | pink |
| ⊠ | 3712 | 1023 | 406 | dark pink |

✦ **Backstitch in one strand**

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-------|
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| — | 3862 | 374 | 1913 | beige |

✦ **French knots in one strand**

| | | | | |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|
| ○ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|

STITCH COUNT 44 high x 41 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 8x7.5cm (3¼x3in)
 This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



More pet ideas

Paw patrol

'Geometric Cat' is cleverly made up of stitched squares, making it a purr-fect chart for pet lovers, as well as those who love patterned designs. It's great for beginners, too, as it uses whole stitches only and just three DMC colours. It has a finished size of 12.5x12.5cm (5x5in) and you can buy the chart as an instant download for £3.78 from Climbing Goat Designs*.



Apple of his eye

Try something different with this cute 'Hungry Harry' cushion by Collection D'Art. The kit comes with pre-printed canvas and acrylic yarn, so you'll stitch this adorable guinea pig in no time at all! The finished design measures 40x40cm (15¾x15¾in) and the kit costs £13.99 from Sew and Craft*.



Just keep swimming

Fans of fish will love this detailed 'Rainbow Goldfish' chart by Katy Lipscomb, which uses 60 thread shades to recreate the beautiful markings of the fish and the bubbles surrounding it. You can buy the chart as a PDF download from Paine Free Crafts* for £9, or you can also buy it as a full kit containing either aida or evenweave.



DESIGN BY **FABY REILLY**

Twit twoo!

Have a hoot stitching this adorable owl, and improve your skills at the same time!



Fluffing up his magnificent plumage, this wide-eyed owl is settling in for the night on his branch. Created using four different stitches, evenweave, metallic threads, beads and sequins, he truly is a fantastic challenge for stitchers!

Stitching on evenweave means you can achieve a flowing finish on the curves of the owl and leaves. DMC Light Effects threads add a subtle shimmer and depth, including glow-in-the-dark thread on the eyes, so there's a fun surprise when the lights go out! You'll then embellish your design with seed beads and sequins to give just the right amount of finishing sparkle. The sequins are attached using round eyelet stitch –

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 40 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, backstitch, round eyelet stitch, French knots, beads, sequins
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Intermediate/advanced

Embellish with beads & sequins

you'll find a tutorial for this technique on page 82.

Framed in a wooden hoop to complement the shape of the stitching as well as the woodland theme, you're sure to love stitching this design – it's just be-hootiful! ➤



Meet the designer

Faby Reilly

“I really enjoy designing projects on evenweave, as it allows for some more unusual stitches and finishes. And who can resist adding some pretty sparkle with beads and sequins?”

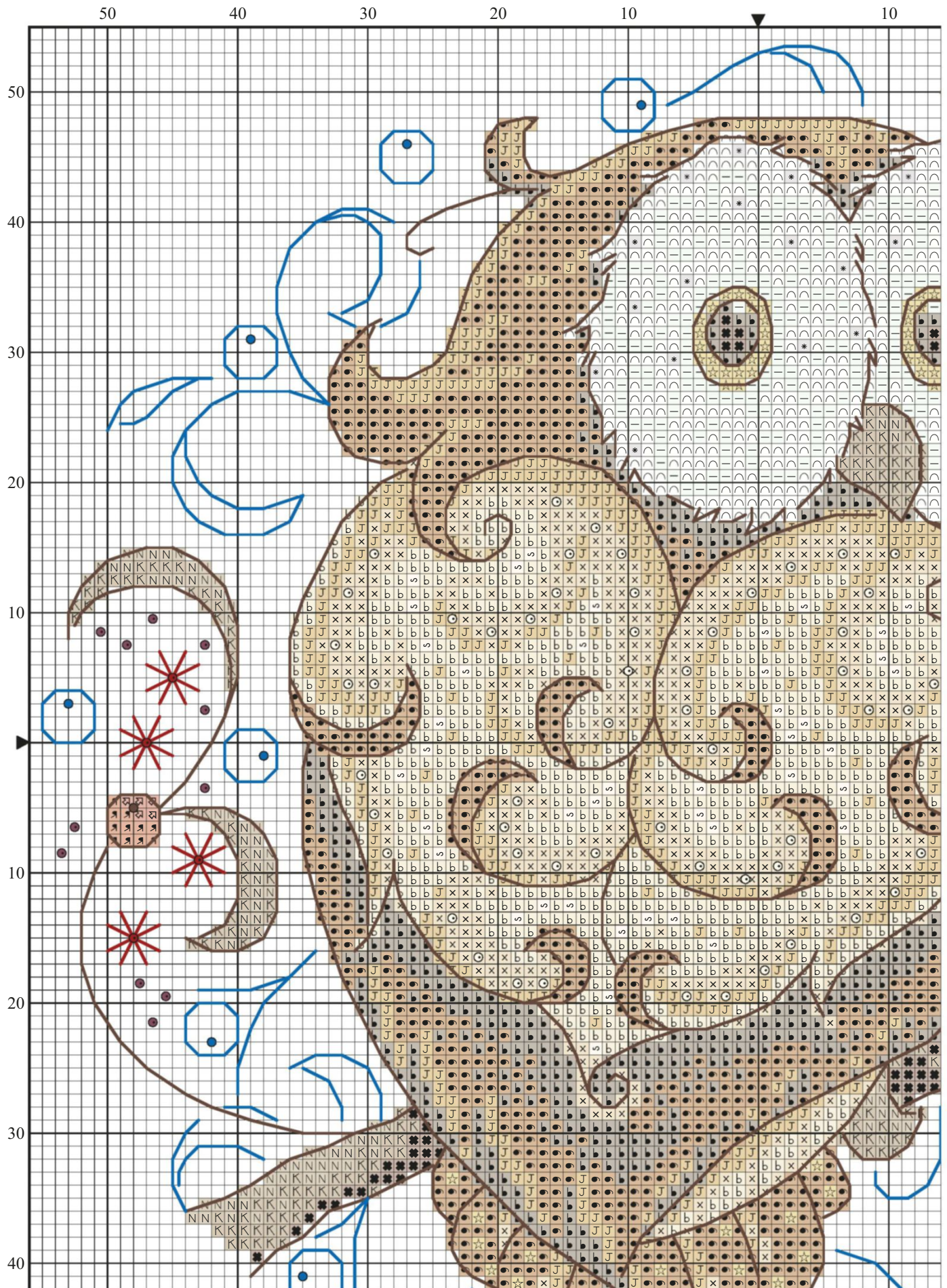


THE WORLD OF
**Cross
Stitching**
STITCHER'S
CHALLENGE



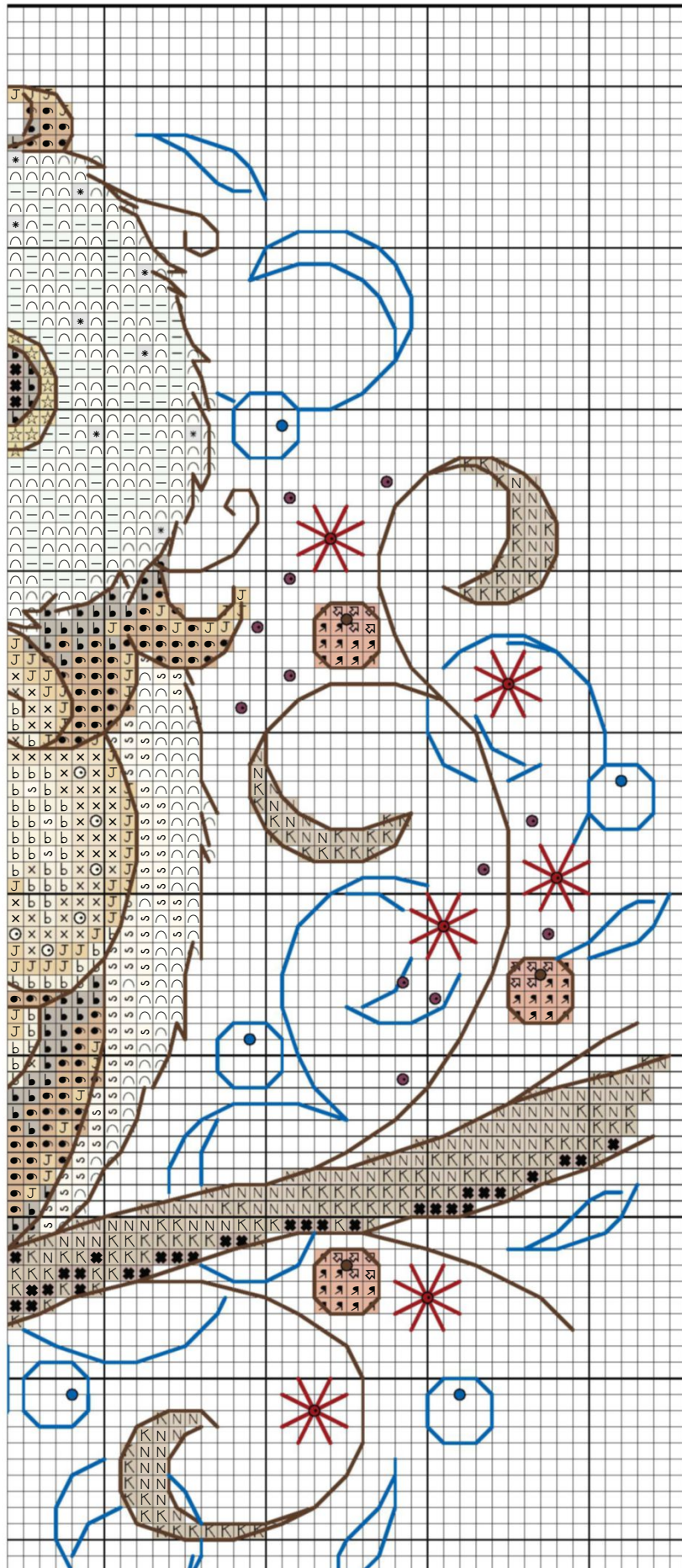
Use a variety of techniques and materials that are sure to stretch your stitching skills





Sparkly Owl chart (top left)

20 30 40 50



Sparkly Owl chart (top right)



Sparkly Owl key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|----------------|
| ■ | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| ■ | 351 | 10 | 214 | coral |
| ■ | 433 | 357 | 2602 | very dark tan |
| ■ | 434 | 310 | 2009 | dark tan |
| J | 436 | 1045 | 2011 | tan |
| x | 437 | 362 | 2012 | light tan |
| s | 712 | 926 | 2101 | cream |
| b | 739 | 366 | 2014 | dark cream |
| K | 840 | 1084 | 1912 | brown |
| N | 841 | 1082 | 1911 | light brown |
| ■ | 938 | 380 | 2005 | chestnut brown |
| ○ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | white |

✕ Cross stitch in two strands DMC Light Effects

| | | | | |
|---|-------|--|--|------------------|
| * | E168 | | | silver |
| - | E940 | | | glow-in-the-dark |
| ☆ | E3821 | | | light gold |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|
| — | 938 | 380 | 2005 | chestnut brown |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|

✕ Backstitch in one strand DMC Light Effects

| | | | | |
|---|------|--|--|--------|
| — | E168 | | | silver |
|---|------|--|--|--------|

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|
| ● | 938 | 380 | 2005 | chestnut brown |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|

✕ French knots in one strand DMC Light Effects

| | | | | |
|---|------|--|--|--------|
| ● | E168 | | | silver |
|---|------|--|--|--------|

✕ Mill Hill seed beads

| | | | | |
|---|-------|--|--|-------------|
| ○ | 03021 | | | royal pearl |
| ● | 03049 | | | rich red |

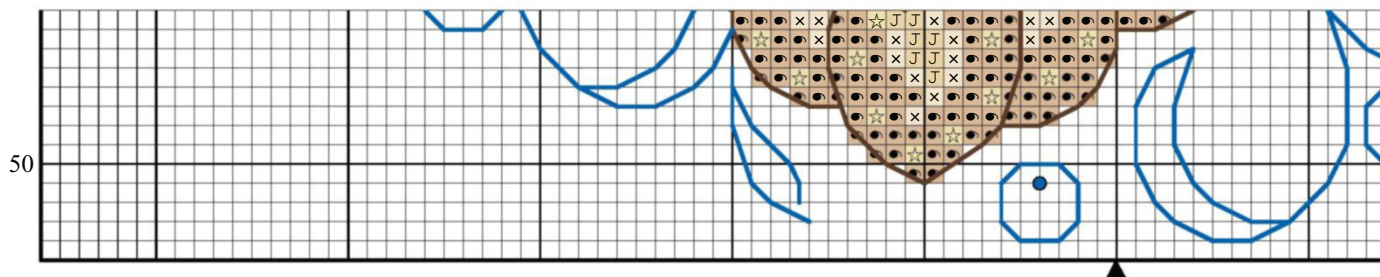
✕ Round eyelet stitch with sequin* placement

| | | | | |
|---|---------|----|-----|---------------|
| — | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| ● | JR01464 | | | metallic wine |

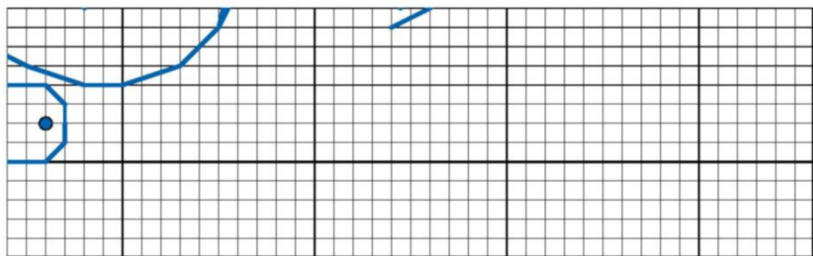
STITCH COUNT 108 high x 110 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 19.5x20cm (7¾x7¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton, DMC Light Effects, Mill Hill seed beads and *Josy Rose sequins on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



Sparkly Owl chart (bottom left)



Sparkly Owl chart (bottom right)

How to...

work the eyelet stitches

The sequins are attached using eyelet stitches. To work an eyelet stitch, bring your needle up in the middle of the sequin and take it down at the edge. Work in an anti-clockwise direction at even intervals until you've completed the circle with eight stitches.



Chloe READER PANEL



“Owls are special to me as the first piece of stitching I did was an owl for a card. I've since completed another owl design, and this cute version is definitely going on my to-stitch list! I plan on either framing it or making it up as a cushion, and just need to decide whether I keep it for myself or give it as a gift.”

Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 28-count cream (264) evenweave measuring 30x30cm (11¾x11¾in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton and metallic thread as listed in the key
- ✕ Mill Hill* seed beads as listed in the key
- ✕ Josy Rose* sequins as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 26 tapestry needle; beading needle
- ✕ 8in (EH8) wooden embroidery hoop from Siesta Frames*
- ✕ Fabric for backing and ribbon of your choice from local stores

Thread & fabric cost Approximately £26

*For stockists see page 90

Enter to win!

Each month we have four fab giveaways for readers with loads of prizes up for grabs

PRIZES
worth
£1,084!

PRIZES WORTH £250

Get creative

Now that it's autumn, it's a great time to check out Creative Poppy Patterns'* latest seasonal charts and stitching essentials. This treasure trove includes Lesley Teare's 'Woodland Fairy', Barbara Ana's folk-style 'Autumn Keeper' and 'Luna' by Shannon Christine Designs. 25 lucky winners will bag a £10 Creative Poppy Patterns voucher to spend across the whole website, which is filled with fab stitchoy inspiration.

TO ENTER To enter, text keyword **WOXS272POPPY** or label a postcard 'Creative Poppy vouchers giveaway (WOXS272)'



PRIZES WORTH £265

GORJUSS COSY NIGHTS IN

Are you dreaming of the months ahead: the nights drawing in, the smell of bonfires and snuggling up on the sofa with a favourite project? The 'Autumn Leaves' kit, a Gorjuss design from Bothy Threads*, is just the design for this – and we have nine to give away. This adorable design measures 21x30cm (8¼x11¾in), is worked on 16-count full-colour printed aida and includes special-effect thread.



TO ENTER To enter, text keyword **WOXS272LEAVES** or label a postcard 'Autumn Leaves giveaway (WOXS272)'

PRIZES WORTH £270

Show time

If you're in need of a post-summer stitchoy fix, then you're in luck. The Craft4Crafters* show is taking place on Thursday 18 to Saturday 20 October at Bath and West Showground in Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Over 100 local and national exhibitors will be on hand for you to top up your stash with stitching essentials. There will also be workshops and live demonstrations, as well as the latest trends and plenty of stitchoy inspiration! Plus, you can meet designers and other crafting fans, get help and advice – and stop off at the Crafters' Café for a cuppa and a rest. We have 15 pairs of tickets up for grabs, so winners can take a friend along with them to revel in all the crafting fun.

TO ENTER To enter, text keyword **WOXS272CRAFTSHOW** or label a postcard 'Craft show ticket giveaway (WOXS272)'



PRIZES WORTH £299

True colours

You'll find Zweigart's* gorgeous fabrics in every stash – from top quality aidas to fine linens and patterned evenweave. Our friends at Zweigart are offering you the chance to win one of 20 bundles including a 48x68cm (19x27in) piece of Belfast linen fabric in fresh spring green, as well as the company's inspirational new *Flowers* chart book.

TO ENTER To enter text keyword **WOXS272ZWEIGART** or label a postcard 'Zweigart bundles giveaway (WOXS272)'



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*For stockists see page 90

DESIGN BY **SUSAN BATES**

Put the kettle on

Stitch yourself a calorie-free treat with this delicious teatime sampler

As the famous song says, “when the clock strikes four, everything stops for tea!”, and Susan’s delectable design celebrates this very English tradition. It features a cake stand piled high with tasty treats including cupcakes, battenberg cake and macarons, all framed with a border of pretty cups, mugs, teapots and spoons – everything you need, in fact, for the perfect indulgent afternoon tea.

Using a pretty pastel palette of threads, this sweet (in all senses of the word!) sampler design is a joy to bring to life. Stitching it will stretch your skills, too, as it uses quite a lot of fractional stitches to achieve the curves on the motifs, plus some

Factbox

- ✦ **Stitching Time**
Approx. 28 hours
- ✦ **Type of Stitches**
Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- ✦ **Ease of Stitching**
Advanced beginner/intermediate

Lots of fun motifs

French knots for the tiny strawberry that’s topping the sponge cake.

Why not get together with your stitchy friends for a crafternoon tea, so you can work on this yummy project, indulge in cake and chat at the same time – heaven! ➤



Meet the designer

Susan Bates

“Going out for afternoon tea is always such a lovely thing to do – a real treat, and getting to create my very own stitched version was even better. I could almost taste those yummy cakes as I was doing it!”



MOUTH-
WATERING
MAKES



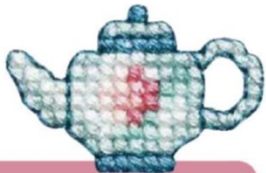
It's time for tea!
You won't be able to resist sampling this exceedingly tasty project...

TOP TIP
Stitch the border pattern of cups and teapots on aida band to make a quick and easy bookmark

Cassie
READER PANEL



“I love a good tea and cake-themed project. Considering my husband and I are American, we sure do like our tea, especially in the winter. I’m going to stitch this design and finish it with a pretty pink frame, then hang it in my kitchen near the teapot.”

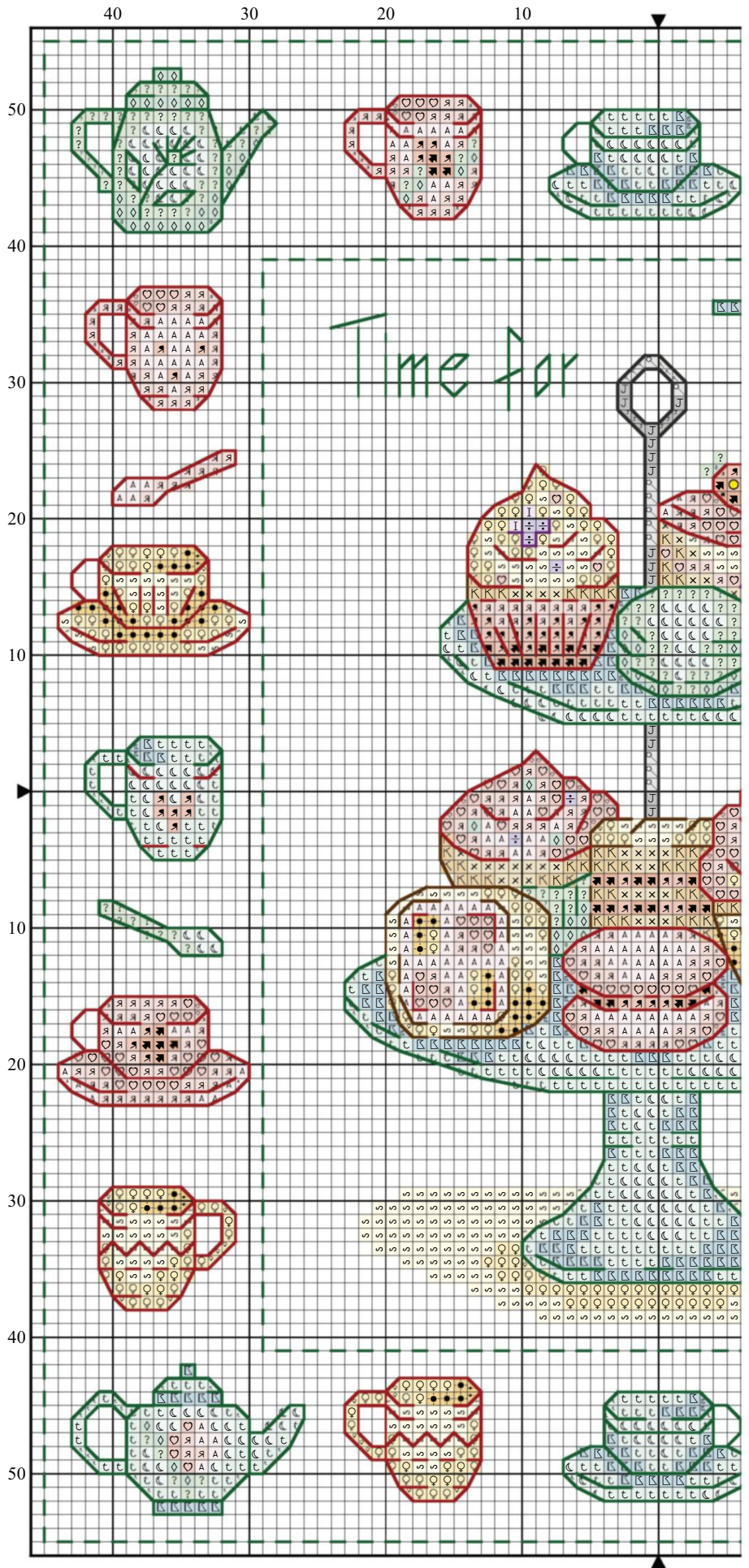


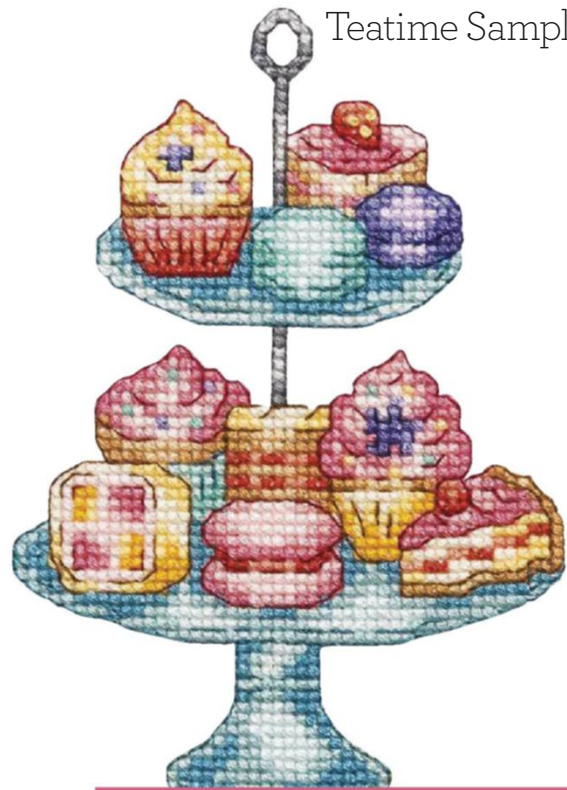
Shopping list

- ✦ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 37x33cm (14½x13in)
- ✦ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✦ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✦ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 21.5x18cm (8½x7in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £28

*For stockists see page 90





Teatime Sampler key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-----------------|
| I | 211 | 342 | 801 | lilac |
| ÷ | 340 | 118 | 902 | purple |
| ↖ | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| ↗ | 352 | 9 | 303 | coral |
| J | 414 | 235 | 1714 | grey |
| ⌒ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | light grey |
| K | 436 | 1045 | 2011 | tan |
| t | 598 | 1062 | 1111 | light sea green |
| x | 738 | 367 | 2013 | light tan |
| ● | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| ♀ | 744 | 301 | 112 | yellow |
| s | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| ☾ | 747 | 158 | 1104 | light blue |
| ⊠ | 807 | 168 | 1108 | blue |
| A | 818 | 23 | 502 | baby pink |
| ♥ | 899 | 38 | 506 | dark pink |
| ◇ | 959 | 186 | 1114 | emerald |
| ? | 964 | 185 | 1112 | light emerald |
| Я | 3326 | 36 | 606 | pink |
| ● | 3746 | 1030 | 2702 | dark purple |

✖ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----------------|
| — | 413 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
| — | 433 | 357 | 2602 | dark tan |
| — | 791 | 178 | 904 | cornflower blue |
| — | 816 | 1006 | 513 | ruby |
| — | 3809 | 1066 | 2507 | sea green |

✖ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| ● | 744 | 301 | 112 | yellow |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|

STITCH COUNT 110 high x 90 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 20x16.5cm (7¾x6½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

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In the spotlight

Becky Spencer

Designer Becky shares her stitching inspiration and the joys of a creative job

How did you first start cross stitching?
 I began stitching when I was around nine years old. My sister and I had a babysitter called Gwen who was like a grandma to me. She taught me how to knit and sew. She died a long time ago but I still have an old green Singer sewing machine she gave to me. I use it for all my machine sewing.

How did you get into the business of designing?

I've been designing for seven years. I studied art at university and one of my first jobs was working as the Charting Editor for *Cross Stitch Crazy*. Part of my role was checking other designers' charts and also creating charts from artwork. After a while, I decided to start designing my own charts. I was a bit nervous at the time about approaching the Editor of *Crazy*, but I was really lucky that she was very encouraging and gave me a chance to be published in the magazine. I'll always be grateful to her for that.



How would you describe your design style?

Colourful, uplifting and a little bit sentimental. I'd like to say my designs are really contemporary but I'm not sure I'm quite cool enough for that! I think I'm somewhere between modern and traditional. I get a lot of inspiration from modern illustration and pattern design. I also like looking at what other cross stitch designers are doing – Emma Congdon and Jody Rice are favourites of mine.

What do you enjoy most about being a cross stitch designer?

I love having a creative job where I can put my ideas down on paper – well, in stitches! It's humbling to know that people are out there putting their time and effort into stitching my designs. I also love how flexible it is. I've always wanted to be a freelancer, so I'm lucky to have found a job which allows that.

Other than cross stitch, what are you most passionate about in life? How do you relax?

My family are my main passion. My husband and I have two children, Evelyn and Leo, who are three and one respectively. Looking after them is my main focus and the reason I get up in the morning (and during the night!). At the moment, relaxing is something I think about wistfully and look forward to doing again one day!

What are your ambitions for the future?

I'm looking to build up my work as a cross stitch designer and start selling online, under the name Apple Tree Stitch. I've set up a Facebook page and my Etsy shop will follow soon. ✕

MORE: Find Becky's woodland cards on page 56. To learn out more about Apple Tree Designs and to hear all of Becky's latest news, visit www.facebook.com/appletreestitch



Contemporary cool: Becky describes her design style as colourful and uplifting

Stockists

Buy your basic stitching stash and products we've featured



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set,
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Getting started

Where to buy your cross stitch essentials.
Turn to page 96 to see what you'll need!

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Products to drool over!
Browse the latest stitching designs and ideas on **PAGE 42**

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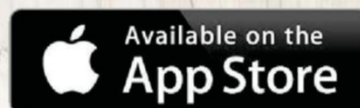
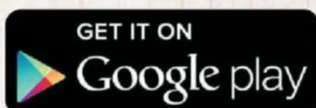
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Beginner? Follow Fiona's guide to instant stitching success!



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Start with these must-have items

1. FABRICS

Begin with either aida or evenweave.

Aida is best for beginners, with regular woven blocks and obvious holes. It's stiffer than evenweave, but will soften slightly as you work. 14-count aida is the most common. It's harder to work fractional stitches on aida, as you'll need to make an extra hole in the fabric, in the centre of the aida block.

Evenweave is a lovely fabric to work on when you have a little more experience. The fibres aren't woven in blocks as with aida, so it's softer and the fine weave has more threads-per-inch – the most commonly used is 28-count. One stitch is usually worked over two threads of the fabric so it has an equivalent design size of 14-count aida. Cross stitching fractional stitches is easier on evenweave, as there's a central hole spare so you don't need to split a block as for aida.



Fabric choices: Aida (left) with obvious holes is better for beginners. Evenweave (right) has a finer weave: see our video at www.cross-stitching.com

2. THREADS

You'll need **stranded cotton** – this coloured thread comes in 8m skeins and is made up of six strands. The count of your fabric will determine the number of strands you use in your needle. Typically for 14-count aida you'll use two strands for cross stitch and just one strand for backstitch. This is indicated in the key or instructions for your project. There are three main brands – DMC, Anchor and Madeira – which are all smooth and easy



to stitch with, and are colourfast to 95°C. Cheaper brands are available, but they're less durable and may not be colourfast.

3. NEEDLES

To cross stitch, use a **tapestry needle**, which has a blunt tip and larger eye than a regular sewing needle. It easily passes through the fibres of aida and evenweave. Different needle sizes are available, with varying lengths and widths, so choose the best for your fabric – see our handy guide. Other needles are useful too... try a fine beading needle for adding bead accents. You may also prefer a sharp-tipped embroidery (or crewel) needle to split aida blocks when stitching fractional stitches.

| Tapestry needle | Aida | Evenweave |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------|
| | 6-count | |
| | 8-count | |
| | 11-count | 22, 25 & 27-count |
| | 14-count | 28-count |
| | 16-count | 32-count* |
| | 18-count | 36 & 55-count |

*Also includes 22-count Hardanger

START CROSS STITCHING...

Make sure you hit the mark first time, every time with our top tips!

✦ **Choose your project...** With our Factbox guide in every one of our projects, you can make sure you choose the right level for you. Absolute beginners should aim for a design without fractional stitches.

✦ **Buy your materials...** To make sure your design looks great, use our Shopping List for each project, which specifies everything needed, like size of fabric and finishing materials. Using another fabric with different HPI, will give a different finished size of design. Calculate your fabric requirements like this: $\text{Stitch count} \div \text{HPI of 'new' fabric choice} = \text{new size in inches}$. Add at least 10cm (4in) on each dimension to allow for mounting, or less for cards.

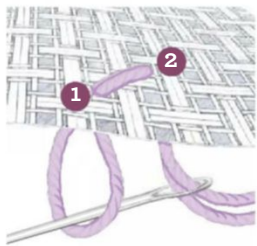
✦ **Get ready...** We always recommend starting in the centre of a design and working outwards. Our charts are marked with two centre arrows so find a symbol close to the centre and begin there.

✦ **Get set...** Find the corresponding centre of your fabric by folding in half and half again. The point where the folds cross corresponds to the centre so this is where your central stitch should go.

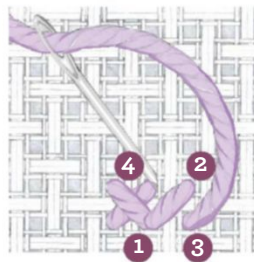
✦ **Get stitching...** Begin your stitches in two strands of thread with a loop start for the neatest way to get going. It uses one double-length (80cm) strand with both ends threaded together. See our diagrams for how to stitch. Finish threads by weaving the left-over 'tail' under a few stitches at the back.

How to stitch

Tackle the basic stitches in our charts...



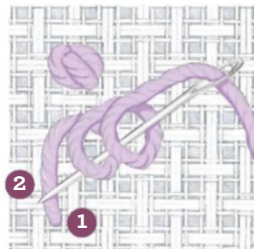
Loop start With both ends of a strand threaded, bring your needle up (1), leaving a loop at the back. Work the first arm of your stitch (2) & secure it by passing your needle through the loop.



Cross stitch Bring your needle up at the bottom left corner (1) & down in the top right (2) for the first 'arm' of your stitch. Work the second arm, coming up in the bottom right (3) & going down in the top left (4).



Backstitch Add detail and definition. Bring your needle up at (1) & down at (2), come up again at (3), then back down at (1) & so on, to direct each stitch 'back' towards the line of the growing backstitch.



French knots Easy with practice – come up in the fabric (1), keep the thread taut & wrap twice around the needle. Push the needle down, close by, but *not* in the same hole (2). Split the aida block for a neat knot.

FRACTIONAL STITCHES

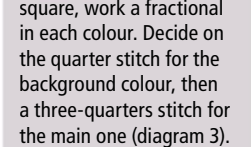
Fractionals let you create rounded edges

Quarter
The chart shows which corner has the fractional. Bring the needle up in that corner and down in the centre of the square, halfway across the diagonal (diagram 1).



Three-quarters
Work a quarter stitch, then, a half stitch across the other diagonal arm of the square as in diagram 2. Like quarters, three-quarter stitches can face any direction.

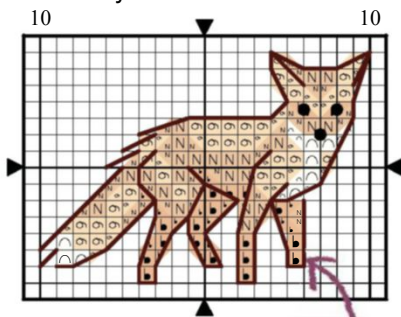
Two symbols
When two symbols share a square, work a fractional in each colour. Decide on the quarter stitch for the background colour, then a three-quarters stitch for the main one (diagram 3).



Back-to-back
For a stronger outline, work a three-quarter stitch in each colour, stitching them back-to-back (diagram 4). Make sure that the two half stitch arms lie neatly parallel to each other.

How to read our keys

Clear symbols, colours, & all the info you need!



Symbols

Look for a symbol close to the chart centre – the arrows on our charts easily show the centre so you won't need to count! Find this symbol in the key. The codes in that row show which thread shades to use for cross stitching blocks with this symbol.

Thread brands

The thread shades are listed in separate columns for the different manufacturer brands of thread. For best results, you should stick to one manufacturer for the whole of a design.

Backstitch & French knot shades

The shades used for these are listed under the cross stitch symbols. The number of strands needed for these can vary, so make sure you check how many to use, as specified in the key.

Fox key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| N | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| b | 3826 | 1048 | 2306 | dark ginger |
| o | 3827 | 311 | 2012 | light ginger |
| ∩ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | white |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-------|
| — | 3371 | 382 | 2004 | brown |
|---|------|-----|------|-------|

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| ● | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

STITCH COUNT 14 high x 20 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 2.5x3.5cm (1x1½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Stitch count & Design area

The finished size of your design – in stitches and on a particular fabric. HPI stands for 'holes per inch'.

Jargon buster!

Use our A-Z of cross stitch to know what's what...

Afghan – a woollen blanket with areas inset for cross stitching, often used for baby designs

Aida band – a narrow strip of aida, available in varying widths, and finished with a decorative edge

Aperture – a hole through which a design is seen in cards & frames

Backstitch – used to add detail & definition. See how to stitch it in our diagram above!

Beading needle – a longer, finer needle than a tapestry needle, used for adding seed beads to a design

Counted stitches – embroidery stitches worked on counted, or evenly woven, fabrics like aida & evenweave. Cross stitch is the most basic counted stitch

Floss – USA term for stranded cotton

Fractional stitches – made from either a

quarter or three-quarters of a cross stitch, these allow you to create 'rounded' edges. See how to make these in our diagrams above!

Half stitch – made up of only one half (one 'arm') of a cross stitch, it gives less dense coverage so an overall lighter effect in the design

Hoop – a wooden or spring-mounted plastic circular frame that holds your fabric taut while

working a design

Longstitch – long backstitches, crossing larger fabric distances

Metallic threads – similar to stranded cottons, these have a metallic finish for shine and sparkle

Perforated paper – toughened paper with a tiny grid of holes, which can be used for stitching instead of fabric

Plastic canvas – plastic alternative to

fabric which won't fray when cut

Skein – an 8m length of stranded cotton, divisible into six separate strands

Soluble aida – temporary fabric which, like waste canvas, is used to add cross stitching to non-counted fabrics, & then dissolved away in water afterwards

Stitching over two – term used to describe stitching over two threads of the weave of

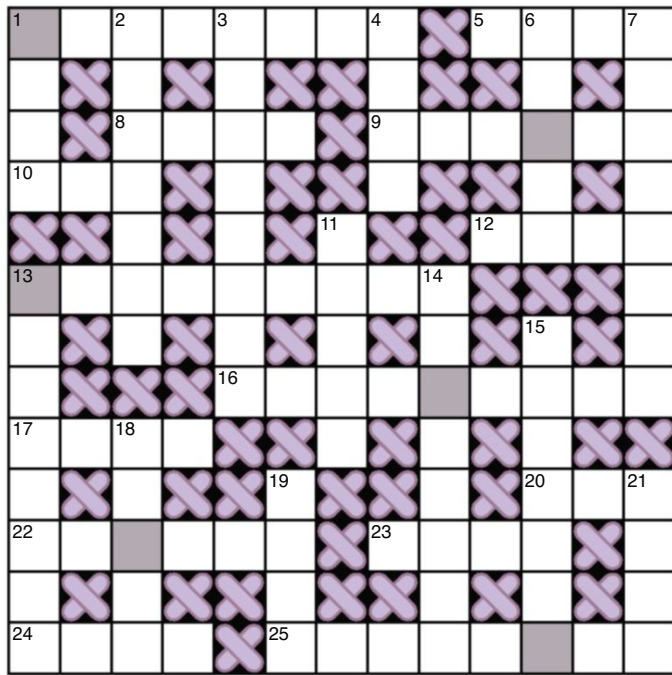
an evenweave fabric

Variiegated thread – specific type of stranded cotton, in which the colour changes along the length of the thread for a shaded effect

Waste canvas – loosely woven fabric, held together with soluble glue. Used to add designs to clothing & other non-counted fabrics before being moistened & the fibres withdrawn with tweezers

Take a break!

Put down your needle and pick up a pen to complete our crossword and Sudoku puzzles



Solve the clues then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares to spell a nut (6). Send us the mystery word to enter the competition.

ACROSS

- 1 Climber plant with hanging fragrant flowers (8)
- 5 Nil (4)
- 8 Friend (4)
- 9 Save from danger (6)
- 10 Fizzy drink (3)
- 12 Without hills (4)
- 13 Most firmly fixed and balanced (9)
- 16 Spotted dog (9)
- 17 Run at a moderate pace (4)
- 20 Tree with rough serrated leaves (3)
- 22 Breathe out (6)
- 23 Front of the leg below the knee (4)
- 24 Group of cattle (4)
- 25 Number in a baker's dozen (8)

DOWN

- 1 Twist out of shape (4)
- 2 Piece of embroidery that demonstrates skill (7)
- 3 Prolonged (8)
- 4 Spacious and well ventilated (4)
- 6 Perform very well (5)
- 7 Knock and spill (8)
- 11 Fruit-flavoured dessert (5)
- 13 Diamond anniversary (8)
- 14 Person who works with straw roofs (8)
- 15 Hush (7)
- 18 Alternative (5)
- 19 Occurring after (4)
- 21 Signify (4)

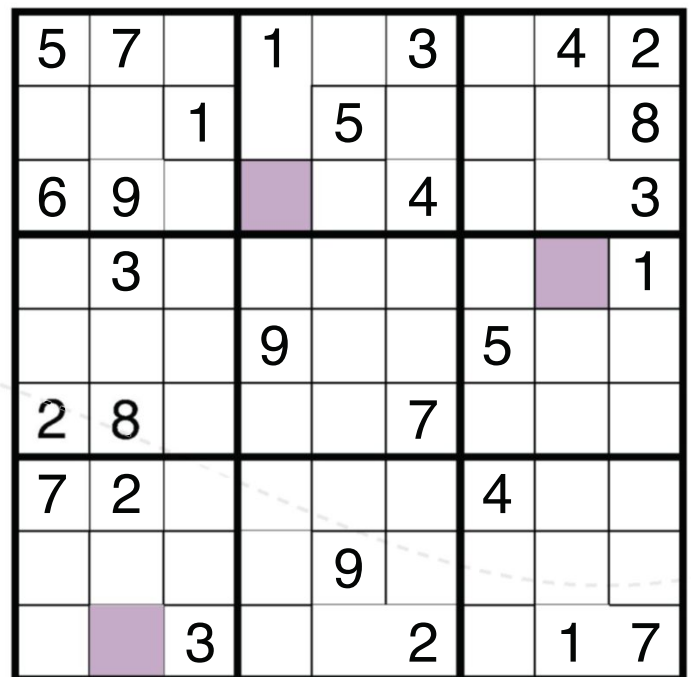
Enter to win!

Once you've completed the crossword or Sudoku, send in your answers (see below for details) for the chance to win an original Furry Tales print of Monty Mouse plus a limited-edition Titch chart, both by Lucie Heaton.



To enter by text: Text FURRY272 followed by your crossword or Sudoku answer, name and postal address to 87474 eg. FURRY272 Answer, Name, 123 Any Rd, Anytown AB1 C23. Texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network tariff rate. **By post:** Write your name, address and your crossword or Sudoku answer on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope and send it to: Crossword/Sudoku WOX5272, The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. For full terms and conditions, turn to page 83. **Closing date:** 11 September 2018.

Fill the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box has numbers one to nine. Send us the numbers in the shaded squares to enter the competition.



ISSUE 271 SOLUTION: ACROSS: 1 Cupboard, 5 Wipe, 7 Berets, 8 Sarong, 9 Impartial, 11 Greet, 12 Let, 14 Elope, 15 Tarpaulin, 18 Dazzle, 19 Barely, 20 Idea, 21 Talented. **DOWN:** 1 Cabbage, 2 Perimeter, 3 Outwit, 4 Distant, 5 Worst, 6 Panda, 10 Incorrect, 12 Loudest, 13 Delayed, 14 Enrage, 16 Award, 17 Pizza. **SOLUTION: WALTZ**

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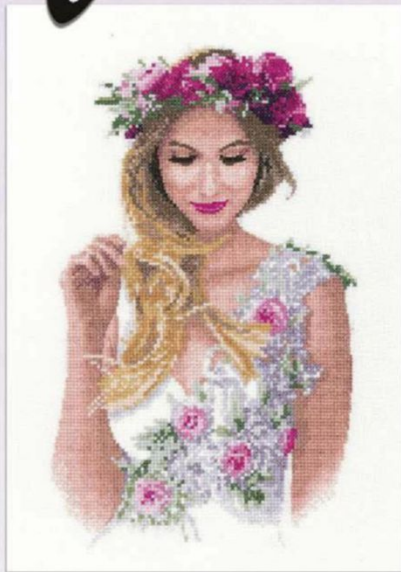
Deadline for advance ticket bookings: 17th August 2018

HERITAGE Crafts

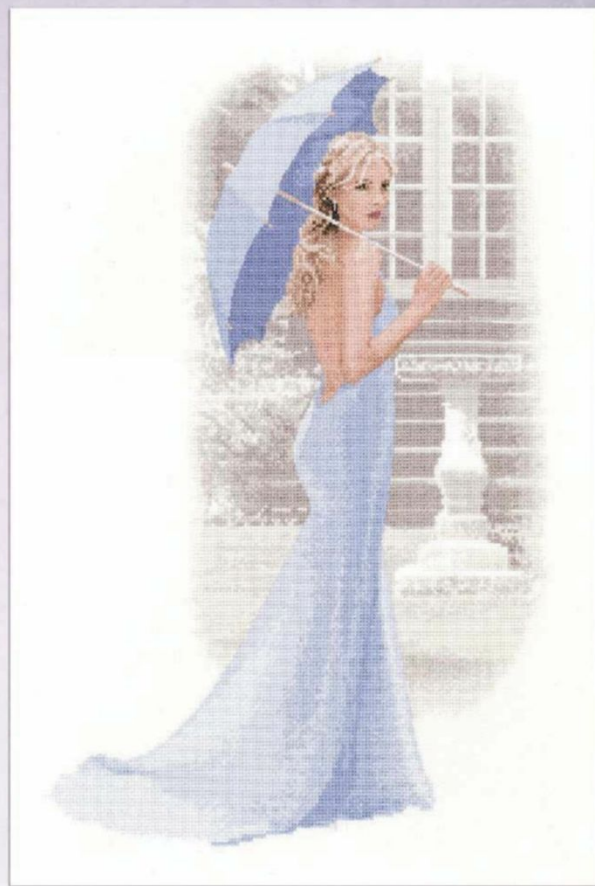
Working with talented artists to produce beautiful counted cross stitch designs



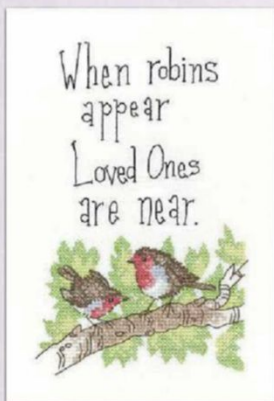
Alice by John Clayton - 18 x 25.5cm



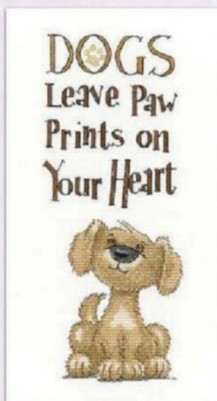
Emily by John Clayton - 16.5 x 27.5cm



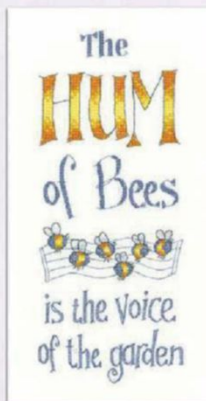
Chloe by John Clayton - 27 x 42.5cm



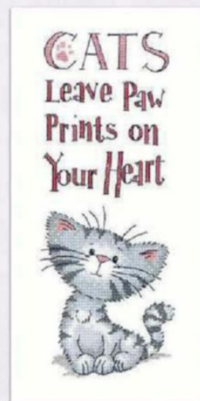
When Robins Appear
by Peter Underhill - 10.5 x 17cm



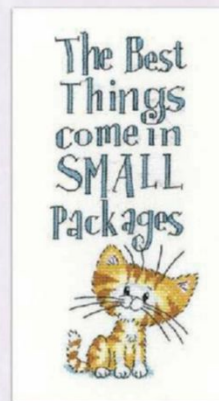
Paw Prints
by Peter Underhill - 8 x 20.5cm



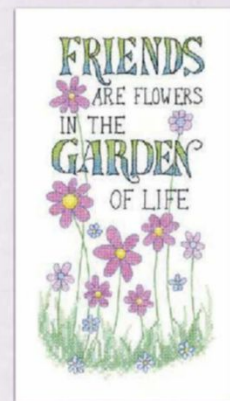
The Hum of Bees
by Peter Underhill - 9 x 22cm



Cats' Paw Prints
by Peter Underhill - 8 x 20.5cm



Small Packages
by Peter Underhill - 8.5 x 20cm



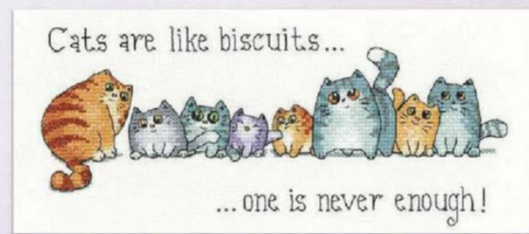
The Garden of Life
by Peter Underhill - 10.5 x 21cm



A Hoot of Owls by Karen Carter - 20 x 11cm



Fish 'n' Chips by Karen Carter - 20 x 11cm



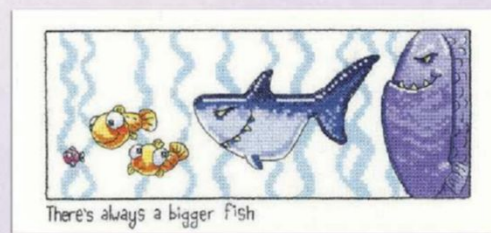
Cats and Biscuits by Peter Underhill - 22.5 x 10cm



Happy Hens by Karen Carter - 20 x 11cm



Beach Huts by Karen Carter - 20 x 11cm



Always a Bigger Fish by Peter Underhill - 22.5 x 10.5cm